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Saturday Dec 11 1982 35p



match

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW

ENGLAND v LUXEMBOURG

YUGOSLAVIA v WALES

ALBANIA v N. IRELAND

BELGIUM v SCOTLAND

IN COLOUR

- IPSWICH
- GRIMSBY
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- IAN RUSH
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IAN STEWART'S SHOW-STEALER!

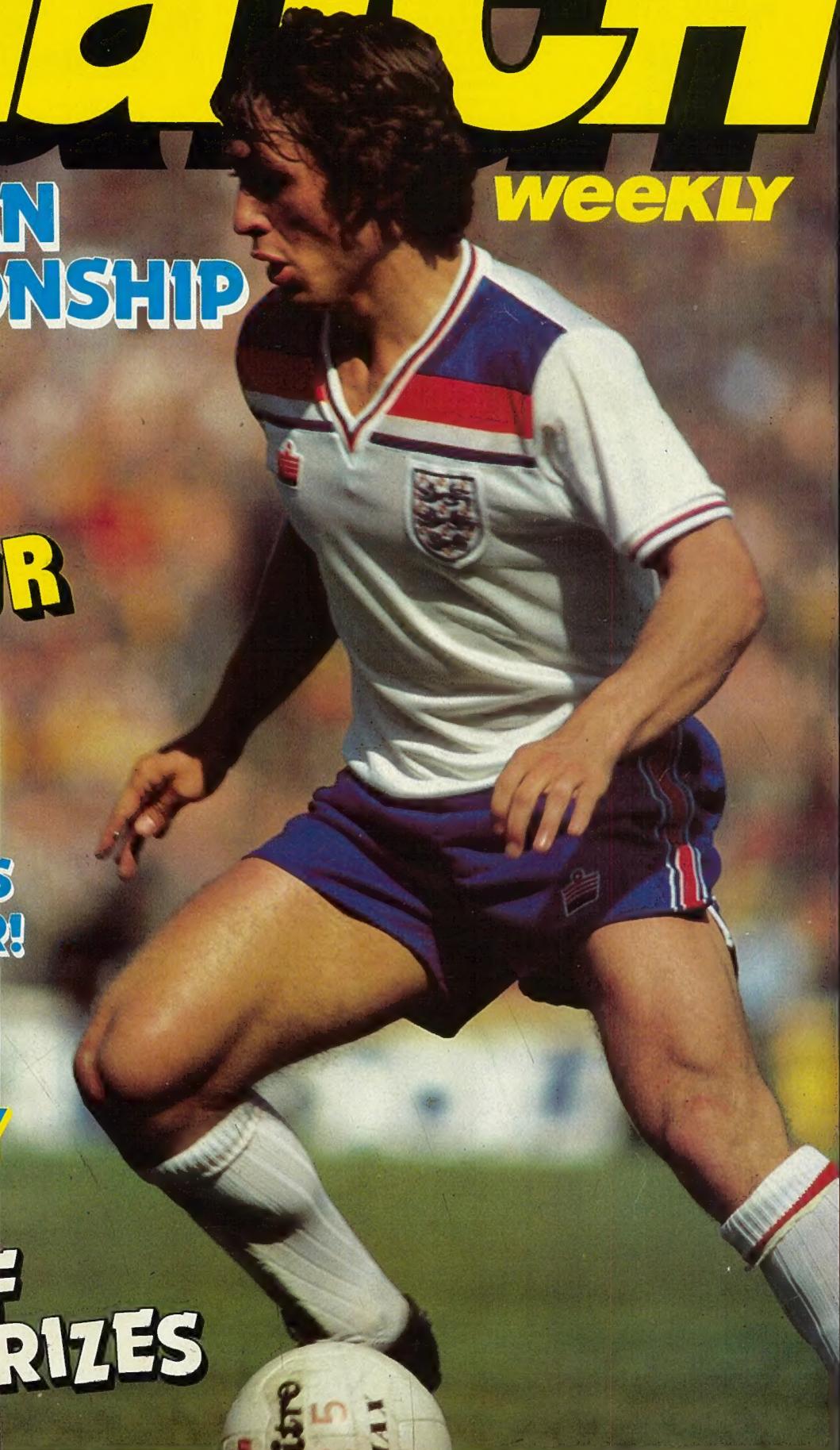
Re-created...the goal that sank W. Germany

ALL THE WAY TO WEMBLEY

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WOLVES chairman Derek Dougan toasted Joe Gallagher with champagne after his part in Wolves' 3-0 demolition of Grimsby. Two weeks later the player was sacked.

Joe's 'miserable' stay at Molineux ended abruptly when the Second Division club ripped up his lucrative contract — worth £100,000 over the next two years — and sent him packing.

Wolves fired their £350,000 signing from Birmingham for alleged breaches of his contract, but Joe claims: "They've been looking for the chance to get rid of me for a long time."

Joe has been on the transfer list at Wolves since last season, but the latest trouble came to a head following remarks made by the centre-half in a newspaper article.

"I was sacked for being honest. I said in the article that I could only give 75 per cent for Wolves.

Unhappy

"In hindsight, I put it badly. Everyone within the club — from the chairman down — knows that I've always given 100 per cent in a Wolves shirt. What I was trying to say was that I had even more to give.

"During my 11 years at Birmingham I gave my all for the club. I couldn't do the same for Wolves because I was so unhappy there.

"Derek and manager Graham Hawkins became obsessed by those remarks, but they only used it as an excuse to get rid of me," claims Joe.

The other breach of contract alleged by the club was when Joe refused to appear for a special photographic session with the Wolves sponsors.

Joe says: "I acted as spokesman for the rest of the players. As both the club and sponsors were going to make money out of the picture, I simply asked what the players

were going to get.

"I wasn't being a money-grabber. I just wanted to know if there was anything in it for us," says the former England 'B' international.

"Unfortunately when it came to the crunch, none of the other players backed me up. They were somehow sucked into the club's way of thinking.

"I was very disappointed with the players because I was left on my own. It's easy to break a single twig, but a bunch is much harder."

Joe says that the decision to sack him came like a bolt out of the blue. He admits: "I was stunned. At first I thought it was an awful joke.

"As I went into the manager's office, I remember seeing my boots in the corner of the room. I sat down and Graham handed me a letter terminating my contract.

"I felt horrible as I left Molineux for the last time. It was as if I was going with my tail between my legs.

"As I drove home, my first worry was how I was going to face my wife and two children. I wondered how I was going to support them and pay the mortgage on my house.

"It's unbelievable to think that just a couple of weeks before my sacking, Derek Dougan was pouring me a glass of champagne in the Wolves

dressing room.

"Being out of work is a terrible experience. I thought it was a nightmare with Wolves, but this is even worse."

Joe, who moved to Molineux in August last year, has been mounting a patient vigil by his telephone hoping for a call from a League club which will resurrect his career.

"In the first week I had seven or eight enquiries but nothing came of them. I'm disappointed although, to be honest, it hasn't surprised me. Football is in a poor state.

"I haven't been excessive in my wage demands. There are plenty of players earning much more than I'm asking for."

Promises

Joe doesn't believe his troubles with Wolves have put off other clubs. He says: "The problems at Wolves really had nothing to do with me.

"When John Barnwell signed me he made certain promises. Unfortunately there have been two different managers since him. I'm sure if John had stayed, there wouldn't have been any problems.

"I still feel I've got plenty to offer the First Division. After all, I'm only 27 and have experience of playing at the highest level.

"I've always kept myself fit

'MATCH' highlights the double agony amidst all the euphoria at promotion-chasing Wolves.

Outcast Joe Gallagher tells of the sacking he thought was "an awful joke" and incoming Alan Dodd talks about the decision that broke his heart.



NEW £40,000 Wolves
defender Alan Dodd shed a few tears when he turned his back on home town club Stoke.

He wanted to stay with Stoke for the rest of his career, but as he admitted: "The important thing was that Wolves wanted me and Stoke obviously didn't.

"I didn't have a lot of time to think about the move because it happened so quickly, but I've never been so cut up or emotionally upset as when I left

Left: Alan Dodd — tears for souvenirs.

Stoke for the last time.

"And I'm not ashamed to admit that. Thirteen years is a long time to spend with a club, and I supported them before that.

"So Stoke have been part of my life for as long as I can remember, and they will always remain so despite my move.

"But now I'm stepping into a new era with a Wolves team that I feel sure are destined to recapture former glories.

"There's tremendous potential and a refreshing honesty both on and off the field, and I'm sure the club can bounce straight back

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FRONT COVER CAPTION:
Arsenal and England full back Kenny Sansom. European Championship preview — Pages 18 and 19.

SACK

Wolves rip up

Gallagher's

contract...

and in shape so I know I can do a good job for some club at least until I'm 35.

"Although I don't regret leaving Birmingham when I did, I wish I was there now. At the time, manager Jim Smith didn't want me and I had no choice but to leave."

On his first free Saturday following the sacking, Joe headed straight for St Andrews where he watched his former team-mates beat Sunderland 2-1.

"It's terrible sitting in the stands. I'm friendly with the players and still feel so close to the club," says the former 'Blues' skipper, who still lives

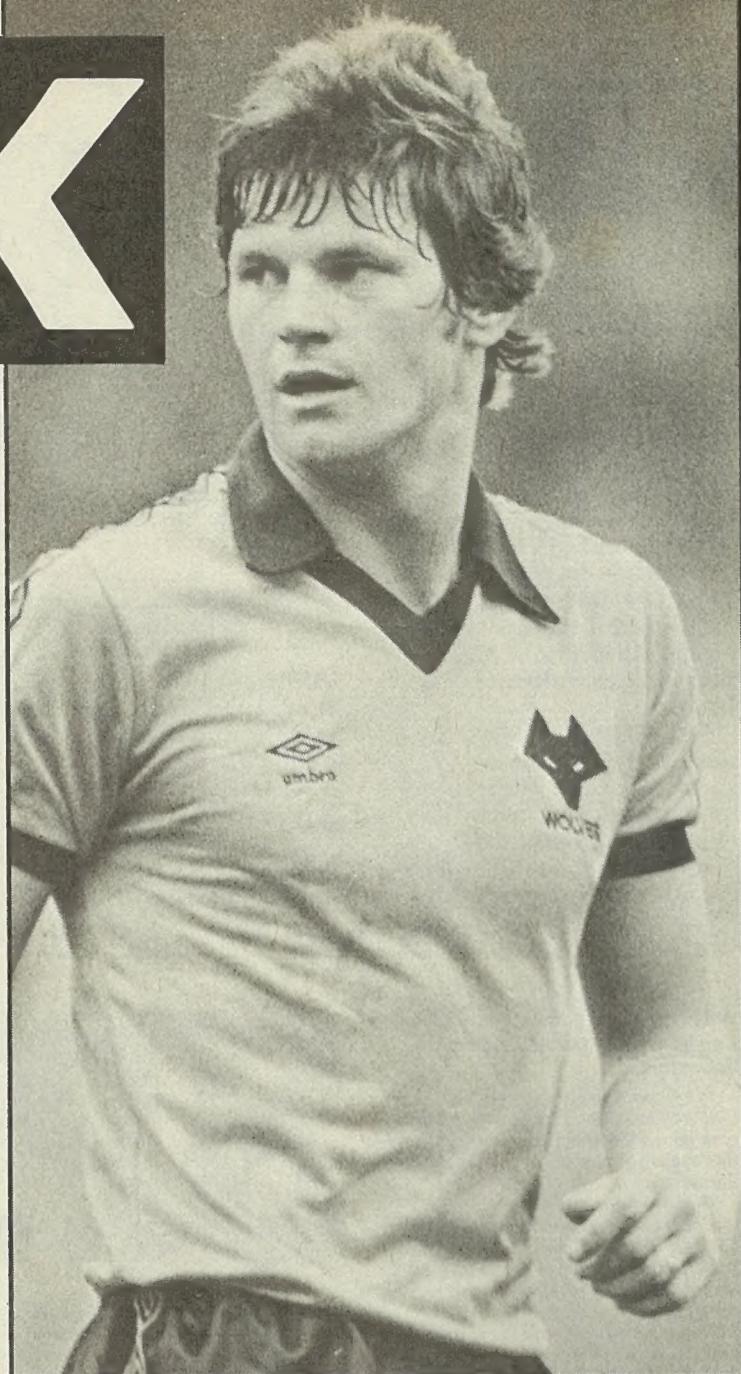
near the Birmingham training ground.

Understandably Joe has mixed feelings towards Wolves as a club, but he's certain that they are destined to bounce straight back into the First Division this season.

He says: "Skill-wise and tactically they may not be the brightest side around but they are a very hard-working side. They are also determined to go up."

For his own part, Joe believes his troubled spell at Molineux has made him a much harder man:

"I'm a much tougher person than I was and I don't believe I'll ever be as trusting again."



Joe Gallagher — champagne and then the sack!

DODD'S DESPAIR

into the First Division.

"I had no hesitation in leaving the First Division for Wolves. It never crossed my mind for one moment about dropping down.

"To me football is all about job satisfaction. I would rather play in the Second Division in my favourite defensive role than play in the First Division and not enjoy my football.

"This is what happened last season. I missed only one League game but I spent most of the season in midfield, a position I'm not too happy about."

But Alan, who had been on a week to week arrangement with Stoke, had only figured once in the club's revitalised side this

term.

He was included as a 'sweeper' in the 1-0 defeat at Nottingham Forest at the beginning of October, but was then overlooked for the next game at Manchester United.

"I certainly thought I would have a chance of an extended run in the team after that Forest game because I thought I did fairly well," says the former England Under-23 international.

"But when I was left out for the next game it was obvious I had no future at Stoke.

"I would have loved to have stayed, but there was no real point if I wasn't going to get first team opportunities.

"It's been disappointing to miss out on the excitement this season after being involved in struggling Stoke teams over the past few years.

"I feel the current Stoke side could go places with the addition of a couple of players.

"On the other hand, they are not the same side without the likes of Mark Chamberlain.

"People don't realise how important he is to the team even when he's not playing at his best. He commands a lot of respect from defenders."

Now Alan, who made 355 League appearances for the Potteries club, hopes to return 'home' next season with Wolves.

"After the first five minutes of my debut at Crystal Palace I wondered what I had stepped into," he says.

"But for the next 85 minutes, as Wolves fought back from 2-0 down to win 4-3, I could see the potential in the team.

"I was very impressed, not just with the experienced members, but equally with the youngsters, notably debutant Ian Cartwright who was one of the best players on the pitch.

"Looking at the Wolves set-up, I'm confident they can get straight back into the First Division.

"Hopefully I can play my part in rebuilding the club's fortunes."

ALL THE WAY TO WEMBLEY

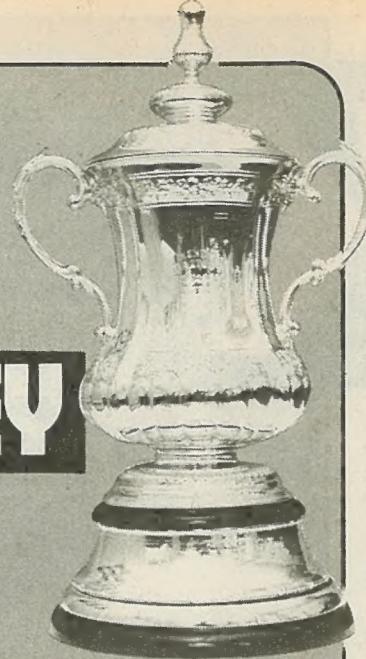
CONTINUING our fascinating series 'All The Way To Wembley' with newly-adopted Wrexham.

We are following the Third Division club on the FA Cup trail after their 4-0 First Round defeat of non-League Holbeam United.

So, after tiny Holbeam, we now follow the fortunes of the Welshmen on their Second Round visit to Worcester City.

And, if successful again, we will continue to follow

Stories by Melvyn Beck



Wrexham into the Third Round and their hopes of landing one of the country's giants.

However, if non-League Worcester indulge in a spot of giantkilling, then we will adopt them in the next round.



Giantkillers. Shrewsbury goalscorers Steve Cross (left) and Jake King celebrate their success over Ipswich last season. Jake, now with Wrexham, hopes for more Cup glory this term.

WREXHAM are pinning their F.A. Cup hopes on their new special K defenders.

The K-twins in question are Glaswegians Jake King and Jack Keay, who joined the ailing Third Division side this season after sterling service with Shrewsbury.

They are the experienced Cup warriors in a youthful Welsh side being virtually re-built by new manager Bobby Roberts after a massive demolition act among the playing staff following relegation last season.

As the players prepare to put their professional reputations on the line away to Alliance Premier side Worcester, Jack and Jake can recount fond tales of Cup heroics and giant-killing acts.

They harp back to the times when unfashionable Shrewsbury toppled First

SPECIAL

Division giants Manchester City and Ipswich at their quaintly-named Gay Meadow.

It's as if they intend to illustrate to their Cup pupils the dangers of underestimating so-called inferior opposition on Cup days.

So it's a safe bet that these two defensive pillars will be in the right

frame of mind for this tricky hurdle set by 'unknown' Worcester.

They realise only too well that The Robins' coffers desperately need the boost of an exciting Cup quest, and that the prospect of a money-spinning tie with one of the country's elite is just ninety minutes away.

The importance is certainly not lost on Jack, who scored the goal that ignited Wrexham on the way to a comfortable 4-0 victory at Holbeam United in the opening round.

"From a financial point of view the club are looking for a good Cup run, as well as the prestige it brings with it," he says.

"Although it wouldn't be a disaster if we lost to Worcester, it would be a real sickener for the players.

"It would be more acceptable to some people if we lost to a League club at this stage, but to go out to a non-League side would be a real set-back."

Jake, one of the goal heroes in Shrewsbury's 2-1 defeat of Ipswich last season, agrees: "All non-League teams at this stage of the competition are difficult, particularly on their own grounds.

"They can see the chance of getting a big club in the third round and that makes them even more determined to do well. I know for a fact that Worcester are quietly confident of achieving an upset.

"But we also want that possibility of a

prize draw. It's great for us lesser known players to get into the public glare and make the headlines.

"Nobody knew anything about me until I scored against Ipswich in a match that was televised, and I had been at Shrewsbury 12 years."

But they both accept that Worcester will be a far different proposition to Holbeam.

As Jack points out: "I have played against Worcester several times in the past few years and I know we'll have our work cut out to get a result there.

"I know they are near the bottom of the Alliance Premier Division but they have had some good Cup results this season.

"They are a good non-League side and we'll have to do our homework.

"It will be the manager's job to make sure we are in the right frame of mind for Worcester, just as we were well prepared for the Holbeam tie.

"In many ways he conned us a bit at Holbeam by claiming they were a much better side than they actually were.

We treated them with far too much respect in the first half-an-hour, but once I had scored there was never any problem."

Jack agrees: "Like Jack, I have been involved in several matches against Worcester during my time at Shrewsbury, and they have always been a tough nut to crack.

"I think we'll be more than satisfied to



Robbie Savage, on loan from Liverpool, scores Wrexham's third goal in their 4-0 First Round defeat of Holbeam played at Peterborough United's ground.

WREXHAM: THE TEAM ROBERTS REBUILT

AN extended Cup run is essential to Wrexham in their bid to cushion the effects of a crippling cash flow crisis and the aftermath of relegation last season.

The acuteness of their financial problems was highlighted recently when the players travelled in cars for a League game at Walsall in order to reduce costs.

A mass exodus of no fewer than nine established senior players followed last season's disaster, including experienced men like Welsh internationals Joey Jones and Ian Edwards, veteran goalscorer Dixie McNeill and midfield duo Frank Carrodus and Billy Ronson.

So new manager Bobby Roberts, with little money and falling gates — they now average only around 2,000 — has the unenviable task of rebuilding with youth and mostly give-away players.

His first task will be to arrest the slide and at least keep the Welshmen in the Third Division which they left as impressive champions a little over four years ago.

But if he is a man who seeks solace in history and tradition, then perhaps the former Colchester chief can look forward to big Cup pay days this season to

offset the daily battle for survival.

In the past few years, Wrexham have been one of the most consistent F.A. Cup teams outside the First Division, and it has taken illustrious names like Arsenal, Tottenham, Everton and Wolves to halt their triumphant march.

Twice in the past nine years they have reached the Quarter-Finals — a club record — going down to Burnley 1-0 in 1974 and 3-2 to Arsenal in 1978, the year when they also won the Third Division title and made the Fifth Round of the League Cup.

And in two of the past three seasons, they have reached the Fifth Round, losing 5-2 at Everton in 1980 and 3-1 to Wolves a year later.

So recent history points to Wrexham enjoying another fine Cup run, although non-League Worcester City will obviously have other ideas on that score when they clash on Saturday.

And if it's any comfort to Wrexham as they face a tricky excursion into the Midlands, it's more than twenty years since they suffered the ignominy of Cup defeat at the hands of a non-League team — and that was away to fellow Welshman Bangor in 1960-61.

WARY ROBINS PIN THEIR HOPES ON DEFENSIVE DUO

get a replay out of this one and get them back to the Racecourse Ground.

"They've got a few ex-Shrewsbury players in their squad, so I think I will have to pop round their houses to get some inside information."

Although Wrexham are struggling on a meagre budget and shoestring staff, both players can see light at the end of the tunnel, although Jake admits that he's a little disappointed with the course of events.

"When I joined I expected them to bounce straight back into the Second Division, but now it's suddenly turned into a battle for survival," he says.

"I think Wrexham have paid the price for paying big wages when they were in the Second Division and it's all backfired on them.

"They couldn't afford to keep some players, and, as a result, nine first team players have left since last season.

"The potential from a set-up point of view is tremendous. The ground and training facilities belong in the First Division.

"But I think it's going to be two or three years before Wrexham are going to be a force again.

"I think Jack and myself have joined the club at the wrong time, but we have

just got to keep battling in a bid to help them back on their feet.

"There are signs that things are improving after a sticky start to the season. We are close in the table to Sheffield United, and look at the money they've spent on players."

Jack is a little more optimistic about Wrexham's immediate future, and he's looking at the prospect of promotion next season.

"Having lost most of the senior squad this season, everyone looked on us as relegation material, but football doesn't work out that way.

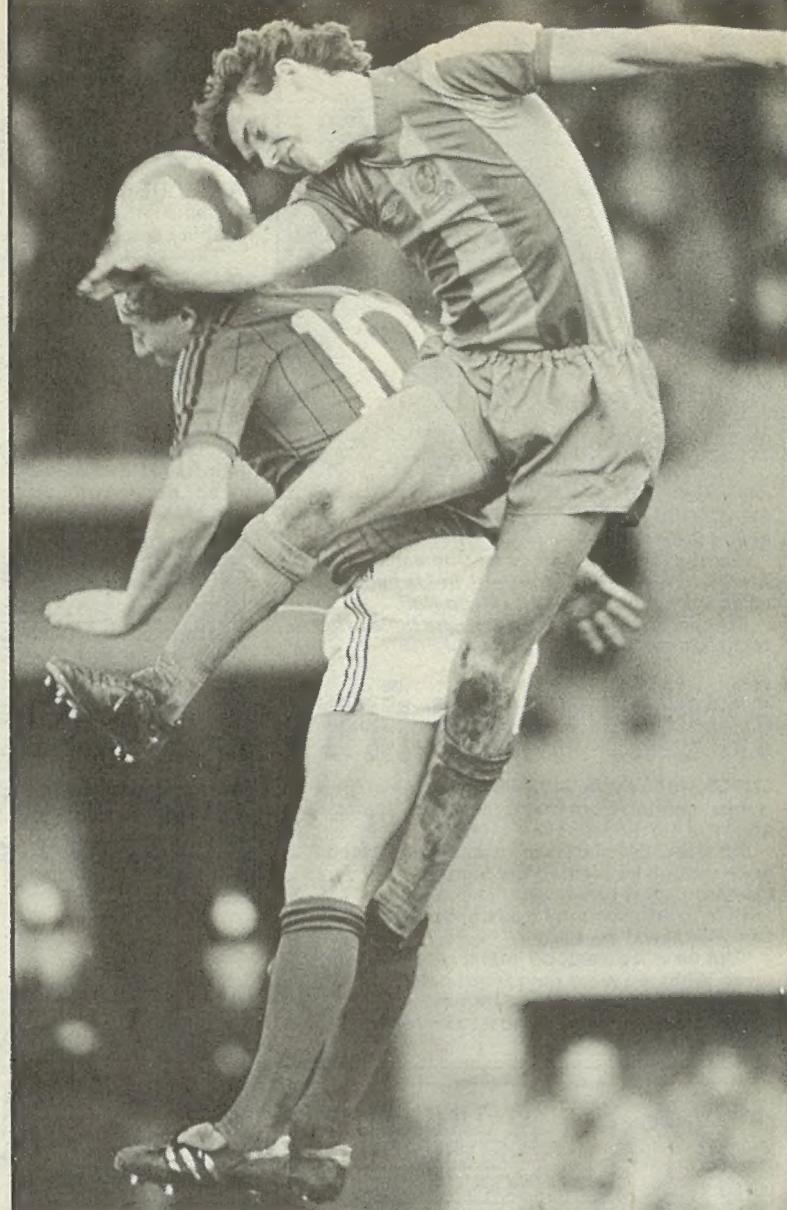
"I was reluctant at first to drop into the Third Division, but Wrexham were one of the few clubs in that division I would have gone to.

"They have a good reputation and their facilities are second to none, and they certainly belong in the Second."

"There is the potential within the club to get us back in the Second, but not this season, perhaps next."

But whatever the long-term prospects of Wales' oldest League club, the immediate task ahead is to avoid any further embarrassments at Worcester.

● **FULL F.A. Cup Second Round fixture list — page 12.**



Wrexham defender Jack Keay outjumps Ipswich striker Alan Brazil as he helps Shrewsbury to a shock FA Cup Victory last season.

TRANMERE PRAY FOR CUP CASH

STEVE Mungall and his Tranmere team-mates will be praying for a Third Round trip to Liverpool or Manchester United if they overcome tiny Telford this weekend.

And, if their prayers are answered, it would mean more to them than just the glamour and prestige involved for a Fourth Division club.

Quite simply, the financial rewards might just keep Steve and his six fellow professionals in a job for a few more weeks.

The second class relations of Merseyside giants Everton and Liverpool are due to close their doors a week after the Telford tie unless a 'Fairy Godmother' comes along.

"If ever a club wanted a plum tie then it's us," says full back Steve, who has spent the past few weeks worrying about his football future.

"The money from such a money-spinning tie might help the club to keep going for a little longer unless a generous benefactor comes along in the meantime.

"We were due to close a week after the First Round tie with Scarborough, but we were granted a stay of execution.

"It was like the end of the world at Prenton Park before that when it became clear that Tranmere were on the brink of closing.

"It's been difficult for manager Bryan Hamilton to lift the players because he has been down in the dumps as well.

"But he keeps telling us to go out and play just as hard because there might be someone in the stands looking at us for another club.

"The atmosphere has improved slightly since the Scarborough match because the club have had a little more breathing space.

"But whatever the outcome with Tranmere, I may move on anyway.

"I can't see much future in the lower divisions because there are a lot more clubs facing the same dangers as Tranmere.

"I'm seriously thinking about emigrating to Australia and playing over there."

But first Steve has his mind on the Second Round tie at Telford who upset Third Division Wigan in the opening round.

"In many ways the players would have preferred Wigan because we know what they are capable of," he says.

"We played Telford in a pre-season friendly and drew 1-1 so we know we've got a tough game.

"But if we show the same spirit that we displayed against Scarborough, then we must fancy our chances of getting through.

"Then we shall be round the radio on Monday praying for that money-spinning tie."

DXIE KEEPS THE HOME FIRES BURNING

FOR Dixie McNeil, soccer wanderer and goalscorer extraordinaire, the thought of soccer management leaves him cold!

That's why he decided to concentrate on his fireplace business and the warmth of a settled family life in Wrexham when struggling Hereford offered him the manager's job recently.

The 36-year-old striker, who has averaged around a goal every other game in his 500 League appearances, has since rejoined the Fourth Division club as a player until the end of the season, but that's as far as it goes at the moment.

"I was interested when Hereford rang me. I have been thinking about soccer management for the past two or three years," he says.

"But in the past two years, I have been involved in a fireplace business and my family are settled in Wrexham.

"I looked at the long-term proposition and, from a family point of view, I decided that I'd be more settled living in Wrexham.

"I've had six different clubs during my playing career, and, when you start on the management bandwagon, you'll probably be on the move again after two or three years, whether you are a success or a failure.

"After I had really thought about it, I decided to concentrate on my business.

"I've thought about it since and wondered whether or not I'd made the right decision but I've made it now, and that's it."

But Hereford, recovering from a cash crisis which threatened their future, were determined to get their former marksman one way or another.

"They came back and asked me if I would play for them until the end of the season," says Dixie, who had spent the last four years with Wrexham.

"They got a holiday firm to sponsor my wages and it's smashing. I'm playing where I want to play and that's up front.

"Most of last season I played in midfield for Wrexham and it looked as though it was going to be that kind of situation again this time.

"I didn't want to do that, so it made the decision to break from Wrexham an easy one in the end.

"The welcome I received from the Hereford fans was absolutely tremendous. In fact, I found it a little embarrassing. I just hope they don't expect too much."

But Dixie, who has also played for Leicester, Exeter, Northampton and Lincoln, is convinced Hereford will avoid the re-election zone.

"There's no way the club will finish in the bottom four. I think the team is just lacking in confidence, which is to be expected.

"Manager Tommy Hughes is all right. He's new to the job and obviously he looked at it in the sense that we were 92nd and he couldn't do any worse than anybody else.

"I can't see why he can't do a good job. He's played long enough. All he needs is a few breaks."

Old boy John gives Exeter the elbow!

PLYMOUTH'S John Sims helped to bury his former Exeter team-mates in the FA Cup.

He scored one goal and laid on the other for Kevin Hodges as Plymouth took the Devon derby 2-0 in front of a crowd in excess of 10,000... more than three times the normal gate.

■ **THEY** say 'charity begins at home' and Southend are sure to agree.

The Third Division side went through to the FA Cup second round by virtue of two own goals by courtesy of their hosts, Bournemouth.

Nigel Spackman and Trevor Morgan were the offenders.

■ **SHEFFIELD** United striker Keith Edwards keeps haunting his former Hull team-mates.

He scored one against them in the Milk Cup First Round back in September, and then did it again in United's 1-1 FA Cup draw.

■ **IPSWICH** are to hold a dinner for their former skipper Mick Mills who joined Southampton last month.

England's World Cup skipper is being honoured for his 17 years' service to the First Division club.

■ **TOTTENHAM** are to spend a pre-Christmas break in Israel.

They will fly out on December 19 to play matches against West German side Borussia Moenchengladbach and the Israeli national amateur team.

■ **NOTTINGHAM** Castle Museum is planning an exhibition which will celebrate the history of Association Football in Nottingham from 1860 to the present day.

Around 20,000 people are expected to visit the exhibition which is being held from February 5 to March 6 next year.

■ **NON-League** sides are the 'kiss of death' to Fourth Division Halifax in the FA Cup.

Little North Shields ended Halifax's interest at the First Round stage this season with a surprise 1-0 victory at The Shay.

And they became the eighth team in 17 post-war ties against non-League opposition to leave Halifax well and truly embarrassed.

■ **WHAT** a time for Brentford striker Tony Mahoney.

Just a few days after scoring in Brentford's shock 2-1 Milk Cup replay victory at First Division Swansea, he scored his first-ever hat-trick in the 7-0 demolition of Windsor and Eton in the First Round of the FA Cup.

■ **STRUGGLING** Reading have signed former Brighton winger Peter O'Sullivan on a month's loan from Fulham.

Peter who has been unable to command a place in the Fulham side after helping them achieve promotion from the Third Division last season, had just completed a similar arrangement with Charlton.



SHEFFIELD Wednesday manager Jack Charlton is seen handing over his Bell's 'Manager of the Month' award to his assistant Maurice Setters before the recent home clash with Burnley. "It's a kind of thank-you gesture for the great job Maurice does at Wednesday," says big Jack.

CHARLTON CHOP FOR BOSS KEN

WHEN club directors issue a public vote of confidence in their manager, it always seems to represent the death knell for the respective man in charge.

Ask Charlton's Ken Crags. Just two days after the club chairman had assured him that his job was safe, he was on his way out of the Valley.

"After lengthy discussions between the club chairman, directors and the manager, it has been mutually agreed to part company with Mr Crags," was the brief statement. Ken took over in June when Alan Mullery quit.

KEEGAN'S CALAMITY

THE old adage 'one in the eye' is one that Newcastle skipper Kevin Keegan felt literally in a recent testimonial for club-mate John Crags.

For the former England star was accidentally poked in the eye by young Middlesbrough defender Darren Wood in the testimonial at Ayresome Park.

And the injury was so bad that Keegan was kept in hospital for nearly a week.

To compensate for his absence, Newcastle boss Arthur Cox borrowed Liverpool reserve striker Howard Gayle for a month.

FRENCH World Cup casualty Patrick Battiston believes he has at last buried memories of his nightmare in Spain and the much publicised collision with West German 'keeper Harald Schumacher.

The St. Etienne defender made a gutsy return to the French national side just four months after the horrifying incident, which almost ended his playing career.

And, during the friendly against Holland in Rotterdam, he made a surging run into the penalty box and found himself in almost the same position where Schumacher caught him in full flight.

But this time his venture into the attack ended in joy when he scored to help his country on their way to a rare victory against Holland.

And the goal will have eased the headache Patrick knows he will have to live with for the rest of his life . . .

Patrick is now enjoying a new lease of life and for that he thanks French national team coach Michel Hidalgo.

"I owe so much to him," says the player who in Spain suffered seven broken teeth, loss of balance that had brain surgeons worried, a coma and a headache that could stay with him for life.

"All through my recovery period, Michel telephoned me to ask how I was doing and, whatever he really believed at the time, he kept telling me he had not forgotten me for the French national side."

Hidalgo kept his promise and now Patrick, who has recaptured his rightful place in the St. Etienne first team, is very much part of his European Championship plans.

His comeback game against Holland marked the end of an agonising few months, but, in true sportsman spirit, he refuses to

HERO WITH A HEADACHE

Flashback to that tragic night in Seville on July 9 when Patrick Battiston was stretchered from the Sanchez Pizjuan Stadium following the collision with Harald Schumacher.

TOP international Patrick Battiston carried with him the best wishes of soccer fans everywhere when he was tragically stretchered out of the World Cup Finals. 'Match' highlights his brave fightback . . .

say anything against Schumacher.

Instead he talks only of the good things and in particular the well-wishers who have helped him along the road to recovery.

"I've never known so much fan mail," he says. "I received lots of letters wishing me well and asking how I was and I will never forget that. It's nice to know there are so

many people in sport who care about other people.

"It's true doctors have told me I may never completely lose my headache, a touch of which I get literally every day, but it's great to be back and I know how lucky I am."

Hidalgo is too modest a man to claim any responsibility for Patrick's comeback. All he says is: "Telephoning a player who has been injured is perfectly normal for his national coach.

"He needed to know he still had friends in football even though odds against a successful return to the top flight were very high at one stage.

"But this boy has character and the way he performed in that friendly against Holland showed us all that he also has nerves of steel. He has the qualities to help him shine at international level and I for one am glad he is back."

Below: Patrick Battiston in action for St. Etienne — his playing career almost came to an abrupt end during the World Cup Finals.

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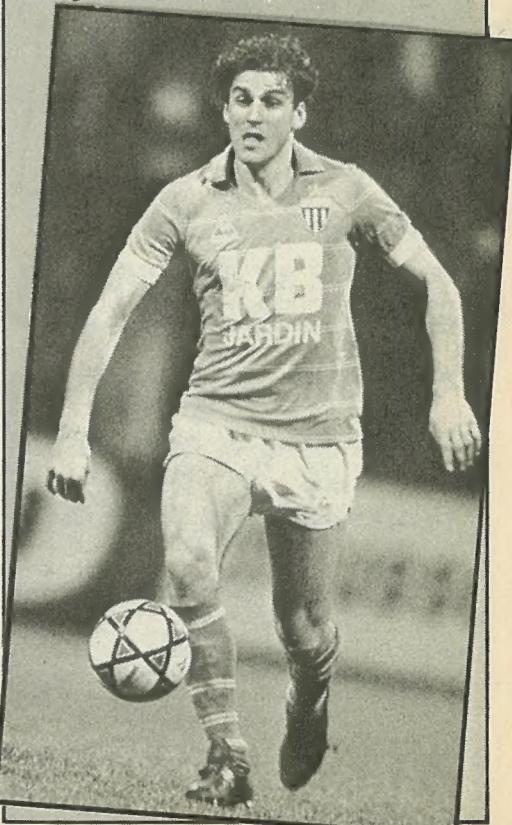
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UNDERDOGS!

SCOTLAND face their toughest test yet in the European Championships when they take on Belgium in Brussels.

It's a game we've got to get something out of following our disappointing 2-0 defeat in Switzerland last month.

There's no doubt that the Belgians, who were runners-up in the last championships, are now favourites to go through to the Finals from our group.

It's an important match and, if we lose the game, our chances of going through would be seriously dented.

I'm hoping that Scotland can show the same flair and conviction we did in our opening game against East Germany. That way we've got a good chance.

Against Switzerland we played well for the first 45 minutes and had chances to go ahead. We just didn't carry that on in the second half and paid the penalty.

The Belgians are a very physical side and we'll have to match them in that as well as playing some good football.

The last time Scotland played Belgium in Brussels was back in November 1979 — ironically in a European Championship qualifier — and we lost 2-0. We'll be hoping for a better result this time round.

The Belgians' main strength in their teamwork. They don't have any individuals in the side — everyone works very hard for each other.

Having said that, I rate young Ludo Coeck as a good midfielder. He scored in Belgium's 3-0 win over Switzerland and looked very dangerous.

In this week's issue of 'Match', West Ham's Francois Van der Elst reckons that if Belgium win the game against Scotland they are certain of qualifying for the Finals.

I believe that's a little presumptuous. Win, lose or draw in Brussels on Wednesday night, Scotland still won't be out of the reckoning. We'll be fighting right to the end.

The Belgians are taking the game very seriously. They've cancelled all their First Division fixtures the Saturday before the game.

Obviously the more time an international squad gets to prepare for matches the better, but I'm not wholly in favour of calling off fixtures.

Apart from the obvious fixture pile-up — and that's something that really affects Liverpool — I miss it if I'm not in action on a Saturday. I love playing in games.

Looking at the League scene, Liverpool face Watford for the first time in a senior fixture at Anfield on Saturday and I'm

SCOTS MUST WIN AGAINST GROUP FAVOURITES



Scotland skipper Graeme Souness looks ahead to his country's crucial European Championship match against Belgium on Wednesday.

really looking forward to that game.

Watford have shocked a lot of people this season and are highly placed in the First Division. It's still early days in the campaign so only time will tell whether they can keep it up.

The team have come under fire because of their high ball tactics. I can't see any way they can be condemned for the way they play.

Okay, they may hit a lot of long balls, but you can't criticise them when they're getting the great results they are. Their tactics may be simple but they work efficiently.

In John Barnes and Luther Blissett, Watford have two very quick and aggressive young strikers. It's good to see them recognised at England level.

The following Saturday we travel to Villa Park for a match against another team in form at the moment, European Champions Aston Villa.

Villa play in the World Club Championships in Tokyo before our clash and I know from personal experience that they could feel a backlash from their jaunt to the Far East.

It's not the best preparation for an important First Division fixture and I'm sure the Villa lads won't be feeling on top of the world.

Prompted by skipper Dennis Mortimer, Aston Villa are beginning to show the sort of form which helped them capture the League Championship a couple of years ago, so we're in for a tough match.

Young Gordon Cowans has been playing well for them this season and we'll have to keep a close watch on him. Gordon hasn't reached the heights expected of him yet but he's still got a bright future ahead.

Many people are saying that Liverpool have already won the League Championship because we're so well placed in the First Division.

That's utter rubbish! If we started to think that, then we could ruin our chances of taking the trophy.

At this time last year, we were being written off as title no-hoppers. That just goes to show how wrong you can be in this game.

Manager Bob Paisley will make sure that we don't take any notice of such predictions and that we keep our feet firmly on the ground. There's still a long way to go yet. See you in two weeks time.

● Graeme Souness was talking to Anthony Hawkswell.

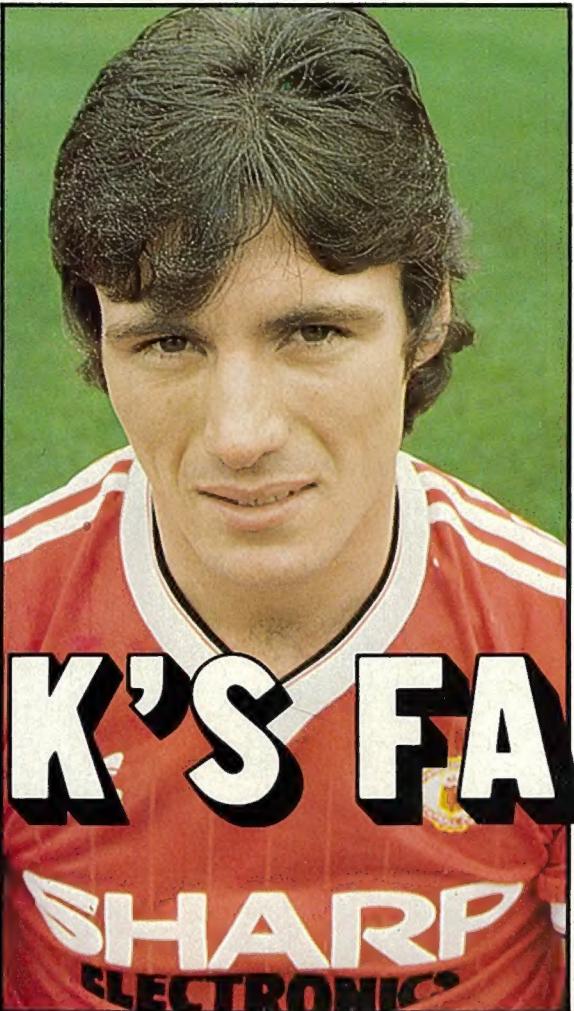
STAPLETON SHRUGS OFF GOAL DROUGHT

FRANK Stapleton has failed to reach the goal-scoring high spots expected of him since his £900,000 move to Manchester United at the beginning of last season.

Even though the former Arsenal favourite has netted only five First Division goals this term, he's not worried about the goal drought he's suffered since joining United.

He says: "Obviously I'm concerned. I'd love to have scored more goals, but I've been happy with my overall performances.

"Even when I do score I feel it's more important for me to have played well



then followed it up with a goal for United at Aston Villa three days later.

"It was great to see the goals go in again and I'm hoping that it's the start of a sequence," says Frank, who has been partnering 17-year-old Norman Whiteside in the United attack this season.

The likeable Irishman is loving the challenge of playing alongside Norman, who proved to be a smash hit for Northern Ireland in the World Cup Finals in Spain.

"Norman has done a fantastic job since he broke into the first team at the end of last season. He's so mature and has coped so well with all the pressures that it's difficult to believe he's so young.

"I like to think I've helped him this season. In many ways it takes me back to when I was breaking into the Arsenal side.

"Norman still has a lot to learn and I believe he can only get better," adds Frank.

United's Championship challenge has

FRANK'S FAMINE

and benefitted the team as a whole," says the Eire international.

"You can't let it worry you if you go through a barren spell — that makes you anxious in front of goal and the situation gets even worse."

Frank got back on the goal trail with a double blast for Eire against Spain and

faltered in recent weeks because of their poor away form and Frank says: "We've been more adventurous away and perhaps we're paying for it.

"I believe we've got a squad of players at Old Trafford who are capable of lifting the title. It's up to us to put in the hard work and prove it."

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West Ham full back Ray Stewart blocks the path of West Brom striker Peter Eastoe during the recent First Division clash.

STAR CHALLENGE

WELSH wizard Gordon Davies — one of the driving forces behind Fulham's surge to the top of the Second Division — is this week's special guest on 'Star Challenge'.

The goalscoring hero of Craven Cottage has been challenged by 13-year-old Fulham fanatic Michelle German of Twickenham, Middlesex.

Gordon will be on duty against struggling Derby on Saturday and he'll be hoping to cause new manager Peter Taylor even more problems by helping the London club to a victory.

Two clubs, who've experienced better days, meet at St James' Park in an attractive Second Division fixture. Star studded Newcastle take on Wolves, who are on the brink of closure just three months ago.

Queens Park Rangers will be hoping to keep up the pace at the top of the table with a victory over one of the most improved teams in the Second Division, Grimsby.

The top clash of the day is in Scotland at Pittodrie where Aberdeen take on the might of Premier Division leaders and

current champions Celtic.

'The Dons' have a very good record against the Glasgow giants and are the only team to beat them this season in the League.

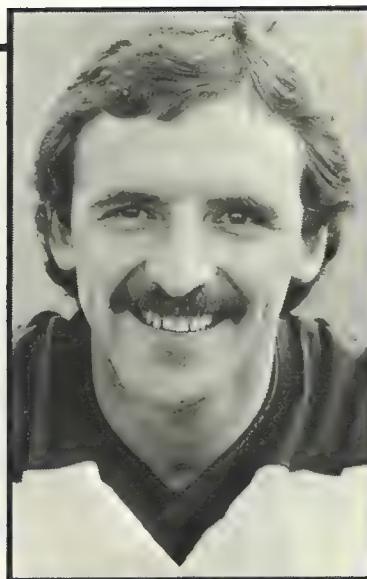
In 'Star Challenge' the name of the game is forecasting results and Gordon Davies will be trying to guess more correct scorelines than his challenger Michelle.

Each week we select 10 matches and points are awarded according to how accurate your forecasts are. If Michelle manages to score more than the Welsh international she will be awarded a special 'Star Challenge' certificate.

Win or lose, every reader lucky enough to tackle a star receives a personally autographed picture.

If you would like to take part in 'Star Challenge' all you have to do is write in, enclosing your name, age and address — together with a black and white photograph of yourself — and most importantly a home telephone number.

And don't forget to tell us your favourite team and top player. Write to: 'Star Challenge', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough, PE3 8DJ.



Fulham's Gordon Davies (above) and his challenger Michelle German (below).



BAD luck to 'Match' reader Richard Haddlesey of Hull, who was narrowly beaten 10-9 by Stoke's exciting young winger Mark Chamberlain in the November 27 'Star Challenge'.

Richard doesn't finish up empty handed, however. The 12-year-old Stoke fan will be presented with a special autographed picture of his favourite player.

GORDON DAVIES

Here are the ten selected matches for this week, together with the predictions of a lucky 'Match' reader and his famous opponent.

There's a space for you to fill in your predictions and a column for

the actual result.
Award two points for every correct score and one point if the result is correct (i.e. home win, away win, draw), but the scoreline is wrong.

	Reader's forecast	Star's forecast	Your forecast	Result
Barnsley v Carlisle	2-1	3-1		
Bolton v Charlton	0-1	2-1		
Burnley v Leicester	1-2	0-2		
C. Palace v Sheff. Wed.	1-2	1-1		
Middlesbrough v Chelsea	1-1	3-1		
Newcastle v Wolves	1-2	2-1		
Oldham v Cambridge	2-0	3-1		
QPR v Grimsby	3-1	3-0		
Rotherham v Leeds	0-1	1-1		
Shrewsbury v Blackburn	2-1	2-0		

IS THIS
WEEK'S
STAR
GUEST

FIXTURES

Saturday, Dec. 11 DIVISION ONE

Birmingham v Southampton

Brighton v Norwich

Ipswich v Everton

Liverpool v Watford

Luton v Man City

Man United v Notts County

Notm Forest v Swansea

Stoke v Tottenham

West Brom v Sunderland

West Ham v Coventry

DIVISION TWO

Barnsley v Carlisle

Bolton v Charlton

Burnley v Leicester

C. Palace v Sheff Wed

Fulham v Derby

Middlesbrough v Chelsea

Newcastle v Wolves

Oldham v Cambridge

Q.P.R. v Grimsby

Rotherham v Leeds

Shrewsbury v Blackburn

F.A. CUP

Second Round

Preston v Blackpool

North Shields v Walsall

Mansfield v Bradford

Worcester v Wrexham

Boston v Sheff United

Telford v Tranmere

Peterborough v Doncaster

Altrincham v Huddersfield

Scunthorpe v Northwich

Hartlepool v York

Oxford v Worthing

Cardiff v Weymouth

Southend v Yeovil

Swindon v Brentford

Bristol v Plymouth

Slough v Bishop's Stortford

Portsmouth v Aldershot

Gillingham v Northampton

Torquay v Carshalton

Newport v Orient

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Aberdeen v Celtic

Dundee United v Kilmarnock

Hibernian v Dundee

Rangers v Morton

St Mirren v Motherwell

FIRST DIVISION

Airdrie v Falkirk

Ayr v Dunfermline

Clyde v Hearts

Hamilton v Alloa

Queen's Park v Clydebank

Raith v Partick

St Johnstone v Dumbarton

SCOTTISH CUP

First Round

Meadowbank v Elgin

Selkirk v Brora

Brechin v Cowdenbeath

Peterhead v Forfar

Stirling v E. Stirling

Vale of Leithen v Stranraer

● **NEXT week's Match Facts will carry exclusive star ratings for all Football League, Scottish Premier and FA Cup 2nd Round fixtures. It's a service you can find only in 'Match'.**

SENT-OFF SAMMY'S CONFESSION:

'I THOUGHT I'D BLOWN IT'

NEW England sensation Sammy Lee this week relived the time he thought he'd blown his international future and admitted: "It was the worst moment of my career."

Liverpool's bundle of midfield energy — a revelation on his senior debut against Greece last month — feared he'd never play for England again after being sent off in an Under-21 match two years ago.

Sammy got his marching orders against Hungary after clashing with one of their players. His flashpoint cost him a four-match international ban and months of heartache.

And he admits: "I felt as though it was the end of the world when I got sent off.

"What made the whole thing doubly worse was that I was the England captain at the time. I really thought I'd blown my chances of playing for my country again.

"It's not often that a player gets sent off while representing his country and I was really worried about the consequences."

But the management team of Terry Venables and Dave Sexton kept faith with their pocket-sized

battler and he played an important part in England's UEFA Under-21 Championship victory.

He became the first member of that victorious side to be elevated to full international status when he was selected for the Greece game.

"I didn't expect to get my full England chance so quickly. It came as a complete surprise," admits Sammy. "My first reaction was to run down the street and tell my parents the fabulous news."

Sammy couldn't have wished for a better debut. Playing in a new-look England midfield, he scored a goal and helped his country to a vital 3-0 win in their European Championship qualifier in Salonika.

"I was very nervous before the game and the first ten minutes were very nerve-racking for me.

"The atmosphere out there was really hostile — I didn't like it at all. As we were walking on to the pitch, the crowd threw bottles at us!

"The rest of the team were great to me. They did everything they could to help me settle down.

"My Liverpool team-mate Phil Neal was never far behind me and he never stopped giving me encouragement and advice. I've a lot to thank him for."

"Tony Woodcock's goal after a minute was just the start we needed. It silenced the crowd and gave us confidence."

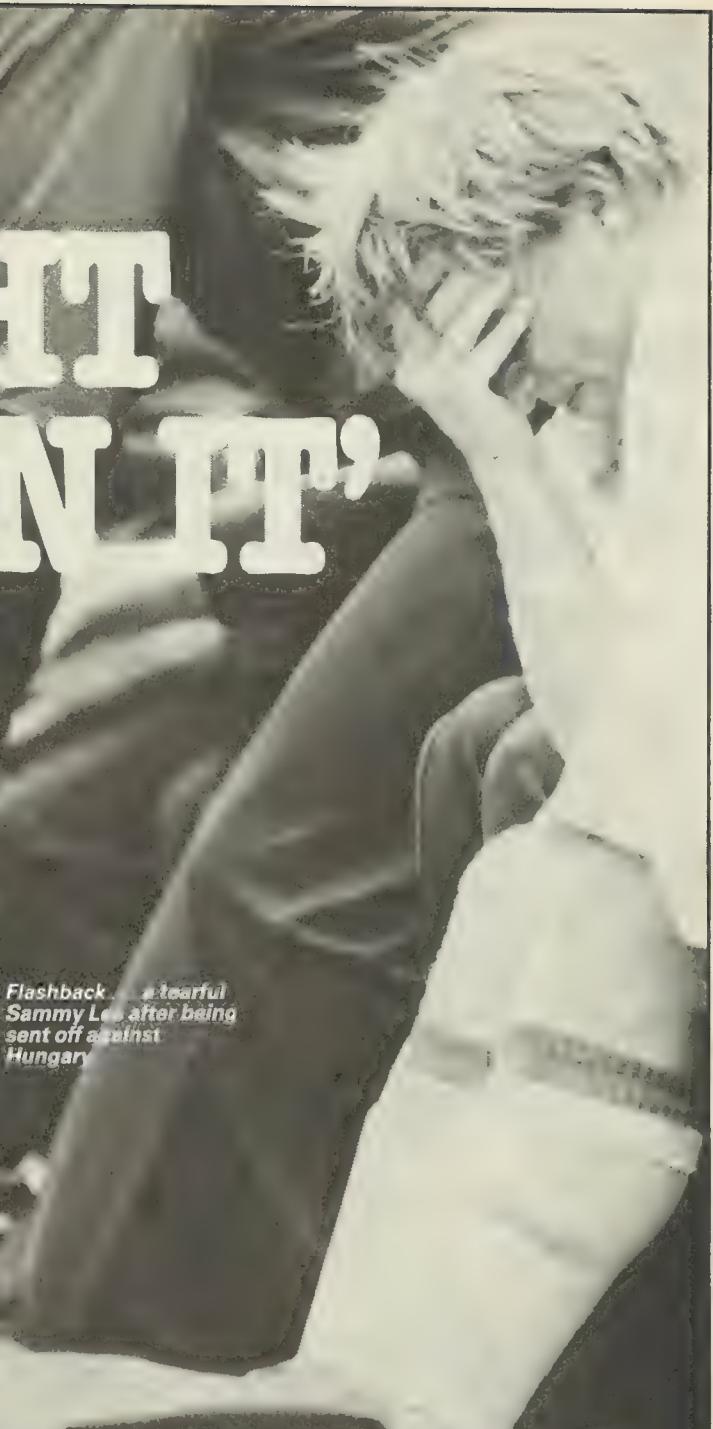
Sammy topped a tremendous performance with England's third goal, although he admits that the ball hit the back of the net more by luck than judgement.

"If my shot hadn't been deflected by a Greek foot, the ball would have gone straight into the goalkeeper's arms. It was a lucky goal," admits Sammy.

"I just couldn't stop running after the goal. I don't score that many so to hit the net on my international debut was beyond my wildest dreams.

"The mood in the dressing room after the game was tremendous. Everyone knew it

Left: Sammy Lee — "I thought I'd blown my chances of playing for England."



Flashback... a tearful Sammy Lee after being sent off against Hungary

was going to be hard so we were pleased to do so well."

Sammy is optimistic about England's chances of qualifying for the European Championship Finals in France. He says: "England can go on and do very well."

"They got a lot of unjustified criticism after drawing in Denmark and now people are saying the Greeks were a bad side and we should have won by more."

"That sort of criticism doesn't affect the players because it's a national trend to knock the England team. People seem to relish doing it."

"I believe there's a bright future ahead. There are a lot of good players coming through."

Sammy's performance in Greece has made him a firm favourite to retain his place for England's game against Luxembourg at Wembley next Wednesday.

But the Liverpool-born player doesn't see it that way. He says: "There are so many good midfield players to choose from, no-one is guaranteed a place."

"Players like Glenn Hoddle, Graham Rix, Steve McMahon, Gordon Cowans, Garry Owen and Paul Davis show what a wealth of talent we have in midfield."

Sammy admits that his personal favourite midfielder is Aston Villa's classy Gordon Cowans. He says: "I'm sure it won't be long before we see him back in the squad."

"Players like Gordon make it hard for me to keep my place, but I don't mind. It's all part of the game."

"To be honest, I'm not even looking as far as England's game against Luxembourg. I don't even consider myself sure of a place in the Liverpool line-up," says Sammy modestly.



PRIZES galore are on offer in a super Subbuteo extravaganza.

We're giving away more than 200 Subbuteo prizes in another fabulous FREE-to-enter Match Weekly competition.

Top of the list is the Subbuteo World Of Sport Compendium (left)—a gigantic case which contains table football, rugby and cricket.

The compendium will go the lucky winner of our special competition, while we'll be giving away six sets of the latest Subbuteo Club Edition football game to the runners-up.

The prizes don't stop there because we'll also be giving away 200 Match Weekly All Star Subbuteo teams in the form of third prizes. The

teams are in distinctive red, white and blue strip.

All you have to do to stand a chance of winning one of these great prizes is to design your own football team kit.

Just colour in the Subbuteo model on this page with crayons, pens or felt tips — it's as easy as that.

When you have designed your team strip, fill in the details, cut it out and send it to: Subbuteo Team Strip Competition, Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough, PE3 8DJ.

Entries for the competition close on Monday, December 20. Good luck!



SPECTACULAR!

*Above:
Second
prize club
edition and
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Battle of Skirmish
Subbuteo is a game which appeals to all age groups so the Championships will split into two sections junior (up to 16 years) and senior.

The Championships will be open to all Subbuteo Association members. Don't worry if you're not a member because we'll be publishing details — exclusive to 'Match' readers — of how to join next week

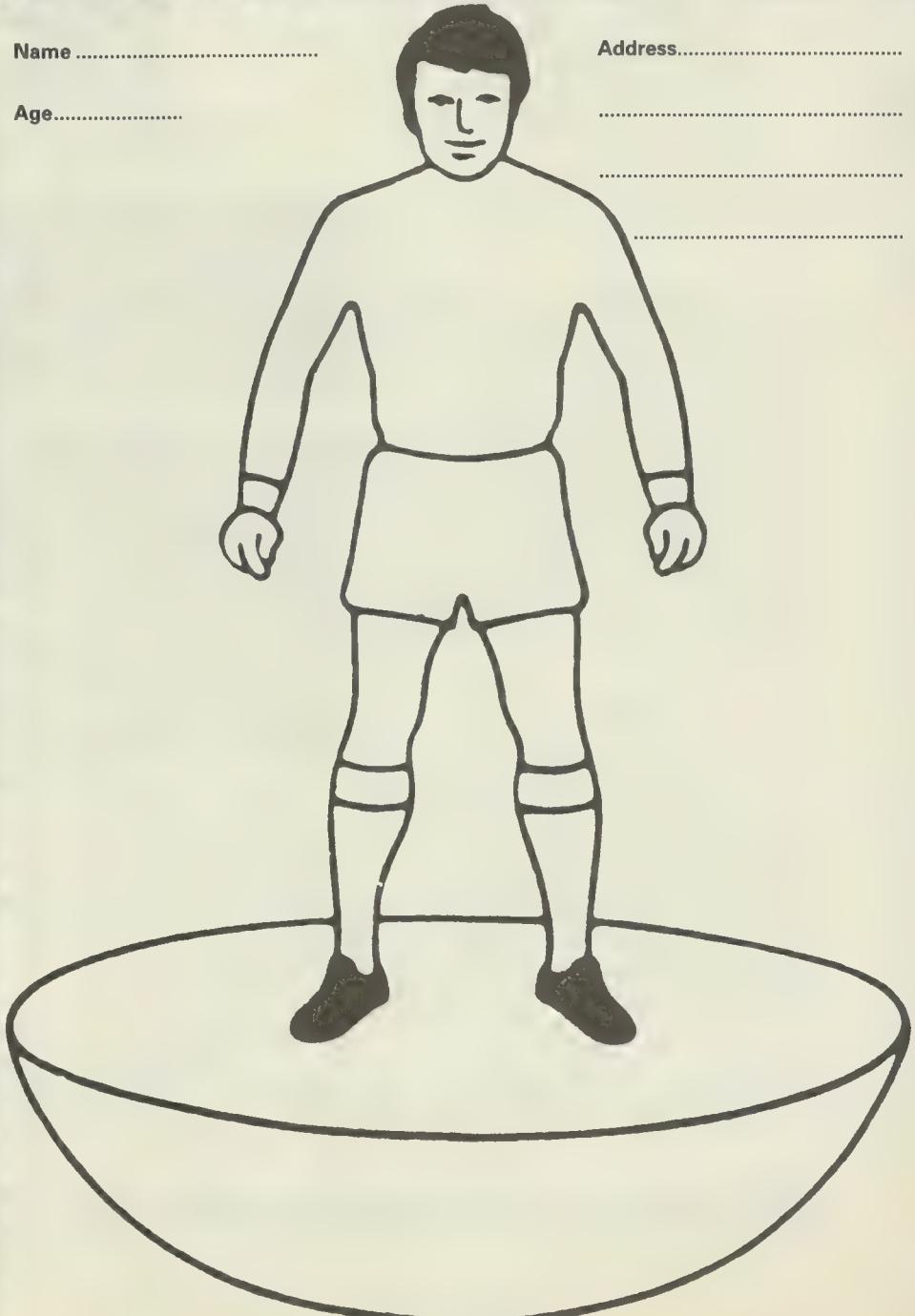
Each country in the United Kingdom — England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales — will hold its own national championships and the winners will be invited to take part in a special Home International tournament to decide who is the Match Weekly/Subbuteo Champion.

More details of this exciting offer — plus an entry form — will be published in next week's issue. Don't miss it!

Name

Address.....

Age.....



SOLUTIONS

QUICK QUIZ: 1. Ian Stewart (OPR); 2. Lincoln; 3. Mark Lawrenson; 4. Sattergiate; 5. Munich; 6. Clydemark; 7. Mansfield; 8. Bayern; 9. Everton; 10. Clive Allen; 11. puts the boot in; 12. Rough; 13. good save; 14. Steven; 15. Solider; 16. Osvaldo Ardiles; 17. Flynn; 18. 2nd; 19. Dennis; 20. Tagg; 21. Brodie; 22. flag; 23. Wellings; 24. First; 25. signing-on fees; 26. St. Germain; 27. Didi; 28. studs; 29. Sherriff; 30. Garter; 31. Keegan; 32. 1st; 33. 1st; 34. toss; 35. navy blue; 36. 8 studs; 37. 3rd; 38. Frank; 39. 1st; 40. 1st; 41. 1st; 42. 1st; 43. 1st; 44. 1st; 45. 1st; 46. 1st; 47. 1st; 48. 1st; 49. 1st; 50. 1st.

BACK THE WINNER!

WHICHEVER team wins on Saturday, Aberdeen or Celtic, you can come out on top!



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(If the game is a draw, please state preference.)

AS ABERDEEN prepare to meet the Celtic champions this Saturday, Scottish fans are well and truly puzzled! Because it now looks as though Scotland's number one club, Celtic, had better watch out if they want to avoid getting locked into second position.

Spirits

ON THE LEAGUE front, Alec Ferguson's lads haven't enjoyed the best of starts. But like any first division team their spirits are running high. Especially after their opening match in the Premier Division against the Bhoys: they beat their rivals 3-1.

Chance

According to Subbuteo fan, 12 year old John Mathers, Aber-

ENOUGH TO MAKE THE HIGHLANDS REEL!

ABERDEEN v CELTIC



deen stand a very good chance in the Premier Division this time around. "I reckon Aberdeen can pip Celtic to the post this season," says John. "And considering Celtic's track record, that'll be no mean feat!"

Fantastic

But whatever the outcome of Saturday's match, there's one

thing that all football fans can be sure of. They can get the results they want with Subbuteo Table Soccer.

"Subbuteo's great," says John. "You can play your own League matches anytime and with whichever team you like. And with so many fantastic Subbuteo accessories available, you can make your games even more realistic than ever!"

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ENGLAND midfield player Graham Rix comes to the defence of First Division new boys Watford, whose direct approach is being criticised in certain quarters... even though his Arsenal side crashed 4-2 at home to Graham Taylor's surprise packet.



NEVER ARGUE WITH A STEAMROLLER!

LAY off Watford. That's my answer to the critics who are panning Watford's direct approach to the First Division.

I'm not saying that I appreciate their no-nonsense attitude, but how can anyone attack a side that at the end of last month were the nearest challengers to Liverpool in the title race?

Only time will tell whether they can maintain the momentum but, at the moment, they show no signs of blowing up.

It will be interesting to see how they stand at the end of this month after severe tests against the likes of Manchester United, Liverpool and Ipswich in successive weeks.

But it's all credit to manager Graham Taylor and his Watford team.

The players are exceptionally fit, they provide 100 per cent effort throughout the whole ninety minutes and they are playing to their strengths.

Any team that achieves that, deserves everything they get.

Yet, in admitting that, it may seem an indictment to their style that a player with such talent as Glenn Hoddle wouldn't fit into their pattern of play.

I think a lot of managers are concerned that Graham Taylor is involved with the England youth team.

They are obviously worried that he might attempt to introduce some of Watford's style at that level.

If he did, and it was carried through to the senior level, it would be interesting to see how England would fare against Brazil, Italy and West Germany.

And with Watford currently among the front-runners for a place in Europe next season, it would also be interesting to see how they would cope with the Continental styles.

We were amongst the latest victims of the Watford steamroller, although I felt we were rather unlucky to go down 4-2.

And, talking to some of the Watford lads after the game, I think they appreciated that they had the rub of the green.

Three of their four goals were messy, defensive errors and I think that's what hurt us most.

I thought Watford were there for the taking in the first half and we could have been three or four up.

But we gave away an equaliser just before half-time and, when they got their noses in front, they never stopped running and hustling.

However, it all added up to a great afternoon's entertainment.

We would have finished with six or seven goals but for the brilliance of goalkeeper Steve Sherwood.

So while I don't totally agree with Watford's approach, we are certainly in no position to knock them from our situation in the lower half of the table.

And I just can't believe that we are in this position.

We are playing far better than our lowly position suggests although our fans probably don't appreciate that fact because we are not in the top four or five.

But I still believe we are capable of climbing the table and qualifying for a place in Europe next season, even though we are making it hard for ourselves.

After that cracking game against Watford, we then struggled to

topple Third Division Huddersfield to reach the last eight in the Milk Cup.

And it was a struggle, believe me.

In fact, I would go so far as to say that we were somewhat lucky to be in the Quarter Finals.

It took a controversial Alan Sunderland penalty four minutes before half-time to see us through.

The Huddersfield players were none too pleased with the decision although I felt that the player, although accidentally handling the ball, stopped Alan Sunderland's route to goal.

But we were mighty relieved when Alan put away the penalty even though goalkeeper Brian Cox got his hands to it.

I was very impressed with Huddersfield and they were a credit to the Third Division.

They were a tidy, well organised team who tried to play football all the way, even when they were a goal down.

We were very disappointed with our performance.

A First Division side drawn at home to a Third Division team should be able to turn it on and entertain the fans.

But we just didn't play at all, and we appreciate that we are lucky to be in the last eight.

People keep saying that it's going to be Arsenal's year in one of the cup competitions.

I hope they are right because we have left ourselves with an awful lot to do in the League.

It's nice to be involved in the latter stages of the Milk Cup but there are still a lot of good sides between us and another trip to Wembley.

But we are keeping our fingers crossed.

● Graham Rix was talking to Melvyn Beck.



Steve Sherwood — brilliant performance against Arsenal.

STEVE Coppell expects England to go for goals in their European Championship qualifier against Luxembourg at Wembley.

The Manchester United winger says: "We should be looking in terms of getting a few goals against them. Although no internationals are easy, Luxembourg aren't renowned as a major football nation."

"It's important that we score as many as possible against them because, as we found out in the last World Cup campaign, goal difference could be vital in the end."

Scoring goals hasn't been one of England's strengths — especially at Wembley where the team have consistently failed to hit the net.

But Steve doesn't believe there is any major problem in front of goal. He says: "We face the same trouble as any club side playing at home. Teams come here and shut up shop. It is very difficult to break them down."

"I expect Luxembourg to come here with a defensive attitude. They'd be happy to go away from Wembley having lost just 1-0."

"It's going to be up to us to break them down. Obviously we'll be hoping for an early goal because that will take the pressure off the lads. I hope we've got the skill and flair to do it."

Steve Coppell — believes goal differences may be crucial in England's group.



CHARGE!

Steve doesn't believe that playing at Wembley puts any extra pressure on England. He says: "It's still a fantastic place to play and it's great to go out there in front of such partisan support."

"If England win this one, we'll have a firm grip on our group. This is our chance to establish a lead at the top of the table."

England are riding on the crest of a wave after their impressive 3-0 win in Greece and Steve, who had to drop out of that squad through injury, believes Bobby Robson will stick by the men who did him proud in Salonika.

He says: "Success deserves some reward and I'm sure the manager won't make many changes to the side which played so well in Greece."

"All the players worked hard and it was an excellent team performance. It was just the convincing result we needed."

"It was great to see youngsters like Sammy Lee and Gary Mabbutt do so well. I thought Sammy had a storming match on his debut."

"The Greeks didn't really get a kick and much of the credit for that must go to the hard work of the midfield."

Steve's own England career has ground to a temporary halt. He's missed the last four games because of his niggling knee injury.

"I spent a day with the squad for the Greece game before I had to go home. I told manager Bobby Robson that I was fit to play but couldn't train."

"He was very fair with me. He told me to go back to Manchester and try and sort it out."

"It has been very worrying and frustrating. I'd have loved to have been involved in Bobby Robson's England plans."

"At the moment, I'm not doing much training. Apart from playing all I can do is rest the knee," says Steve.

While England prepare to do battle on their own doorstep, a cock-a-hoop NORTHERN IRELAND squad travel to Albania with morale sky-high following their historic victory over European Champions West Germany.

And star midfield player Sammy McIlroy is confident Ireland can collect another two

ENGLAND WILL GO FOR GOALS

points to bring them in reach of group leaders Austria.

"We are really looking forward to the game against Albania, especially after beating West Germany in Belfast last month," says the Stoke City player.

"I think everyone realises Albania are the weakest team in the group but we have still got to go out there and give everything if we want to win."

"We certainly won't be taking them for granted and we don't expect a walkover," he adds.

Northern Ireland have two points from their opening two games in Group Six — four points behind leaders Austria with a game in hand.

But with the game against Albania to come, followed by home fixtures against Turkey and Albania again, they are looking to bolster their position in the league table.

"The next three games give us a really good chance of getting plenty of points and we will be looking for victory in each one," says the former Manchester United star.

"But although we will be playing weaker teams, we have still got to adopt the right attitude and go out in the same frame of mind as we did against Germany, when we were underdogs."

"Every player has got to give 100 per cent all the time — that is the only time we can upset teams."

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Northern Ireland are probably enjoying their best ever year on the international scene — the squad having had a great run in the World Cup — notably victory over host nation Spain.

They suffered a set-back early in their European Championship campaign when they lost 2-0 to Austria, and Sammy describes that performance as their "worst for a long time".

"It was obviously a backlash from the World Cup but we put things right against Germany," he adds.

Sammy's former Manchester United team-mate Jimmy Nicholl said in 'Match' before the Germany game in Belfast: "We will need a miracle to beat them."

But in front of an excited home crowd, the battling Irish team pulled off what must rate as their greatest ever victory.

It was a game Sammy McIlroy will never forget. He says: "It was a tremendous night and everything went right for us. We knew we had to harass the Germans out of the game and not let them settle down."

He sees Austria as the biggest hurdle to overcome especially after their convincing defeat over Northern Ireland earlier in the year, but adds: "They have still got to come to Belfast and I fancy our chances of beating anyone on our home ground."

WALES go into their crucial game in Yugoslavia knowing that a win will put them in with a great chance of qualifying for the final stages.

Mike England's Welsh dragons are hungry for a taste of glory after falling at the last hurdle in their bid to qualify for the World Cup Finals in Spain.

And new captain Paul Price is quietly confident Wales can make their mark on the European Championships and so wipe out bitter memories of last season.

He says: "Everyone was disappointed about not qualifying for the World Cup, but that is behind us now and we are determined to put Wales back on the international soccer map."

"The game against Yugoslavia is vital for us because it will be our first away match and we need a good result to put us in a strong position in the table."

Wales have only won their way through to the final stages of the European Championships once in the past — in 1976 when they were knocked out in the Quarter-Finals... by Yugoslavia!

They have an excellent chance of qualifying again this year, especially as the three countries in their group have all dropped vital points.

Wales collected two points from their first championship game when they beat present

European Championship qualifiers . . .

England v Luxembourg . . . Yugoslavia v

Wales . . . Albania v N. Ireland . . . Belgium v

Scotland . . . Wednesday, December 15.

league leaders Norway 1-0 in a scrappy match at Swansea in September.

Victory in Belgrade would put Wales top of Group Four but they will find Yugoslavia a better-equipped outfit than we saw in Spain.

The Slavs had a disappointing World Cup Finals, winning only one game against Honduras by the odd goal and failing to get past the first phase of the competition.

But since then, they have reshaped their side and notched up a fine win away to Bulgaria in a recent European Championship game.

Like his manager Mike England, Paul recognises that Yugoslavia are a formidable force. He says: "They have always been a difficult side to beat and their win in Bulgaria proves they are not playing too badly at the moment."

"But if we get the rub of the green, I think we can get a good result."

★★★★★★★★★★★★

HOW THEY STAND

Group One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	1	1	0	0	3	0	2
SCOTLAND	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Switzerland	2	1	0	1	2	3	2
E. Germany	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

Group Three

ENGLAND	2	1	1	0	5	2	3
Denmark	2	1	1	0	4	3	3
Greece	2	1	0	1	2	3	2
Luxembourg	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Hungary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

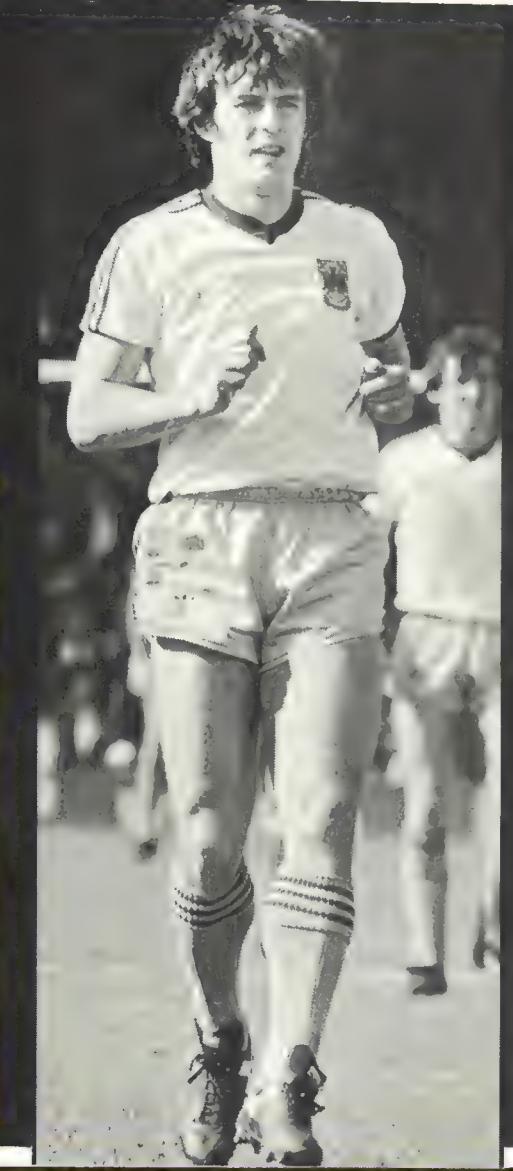
Group Four

Norway	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
WALES	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	0	1	2	3	2
Bulgaria	2	0	1	1	2	3	1

Group Six

Austria	3	3	0	0	11	0	6
N. IRELAND	2	1	0	1	1	2	2
Turkey	2	1	0	1	1	4	2
W. Germany	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Albania	2	0	0	2	0	6	0

★★★★★★★★★★★★



CRUNCH!

WEST HAM'S Belgian ace Francois Van der Elst believes his country will be certain of a place in the European Championship Finals if they beat Scotland.

The classy midfielder rates the clash against the Scots as the crunch tie in Group One. He says: "This is the big one. A win will make sure of our place in the Finals."

"If we can beat Scotland, it will give us a two-point lead and a game in hand. We shouldn't slip from a position like that."

"I've always regarded Scotland as our main threat so it's vital that we get the right result in Brussels," he says.

Belgium, runners-up in the last European Championships in Italy, got their latest campaign off to a winning start with the 3-0 destruction of Switzerland. Francois came on as substitute in that game.

"To be honest, I don't rate Switzerland that highly so I was very surprised when they beat Scotland 2-0 over there last month."

"The result could have been so different if

striker Paul Sturrock hadn't missed an easy chance early in the game.

"Scotland's strength is in midfield where Graeme Souness, Gordon Strachan and John Wark have developed a good understanding."

"Kenny Dalglish has been in and out of the squad since the World Cup Finals, but I believe he'll play against us. He's still one of the deadliest strikers around."

"It's going to be an attacking, open game. Both teams have to win so it's no good one side sitting back and defending."

Francois warns Scotland: "Belgium have become very difficult to beat at home. The current squad is now as strong as the one which reached the Final of the European Championship two years ago."

"We've earned a reputation as a do-or-die side but that's only because we like to soak up pressure and then hit teams on the break."

"Since our success in the last tournament, people in Belgium expect us to qualify for the

VITAL GAME FOR SCOTS

Finals in France. We've set ourselves such a high standard now."

"The Scotland game will be very difficult but I'm convinced we can beat them," says Francois, who joined The 'Hammers' from New York Cosmos last season.

The Belgian FA have cancelled all fixtures the Saturday before the game against Scotland and Francois believes that will give his team a definite advantage.

"Our players reported for training last Monday and that has helped us tremendously. It gives us a chance to get to know each other and train together."

"I think the English First Division and Scottish Premier Division matches should be called off before the big games. Getting together two days before a match just doesn't give you enough time to prepare."

● The views of Scotland skipper Graeme Souness are on page 9.

Above: Francois Van der Elst — convinced Belgium can beat Scotland.



IPSWICH



BACK ROW (left to right): Tommy Parkin, Kevin O'Callaghan, Tony Kinsella, Irvin Geron, John Linford, Kevin Steggles, Russell Osman, Trevor Putney, David Barnes.

MIDDLE ROW: Charlie Woods (first team coach), Bobby Ferguson (Manager), Mich D'Avray, Alan Brazil, Laurie Sivell, Paul Cooper, Steve McCall, John Wark, Brian Owen (reserve team coach).

FRONT ROW: Terry Butcher, Paul Mariner, Frans Thijssen, Mick Mills (now with Southampton), Robin Turner, George Burley, Eric Gates.

STAR GALLERY



Anthony Stead, of Sheffield, reckons Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar (above) has proved his early critics wrong with his impressive form for the League Champions.

Derry Emerson, 15, of Keyworth, Notts, has picked West Brom full back Brendon Batson (left) for her subject: "He's a fine player," she says.

DRAW a picture of your favourite footballer and you could win a fabulous soccer card game! "Big League" is an exciting new game normally played by 2-6 people — the object being to form a team of 11 players.

But you can also amuse yourself by playing "Big League" patience.

It's a game approved by the Football League and all you have to do to stand a chance of winning one is send in your drawing together with a sentence saying why your chosen player deserves a place in "Star Gallery".

The sender of each drawing published is a winner! Write to: "Star Gallery", Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.



New Southampton signing Mick Mills has been chosen by Stuart Scott of Colchester, in recognition of his long service with Ipswich.

"He's a prolific scorer and rates alongside ex-Tottenham ace Jimmy Greaves." That's Welshpool reader R. Shingler's verdict on Tottenham's Scottish striker Steve Archibald (left).

TERRACE TALK

Edited by
Michael
Weavers



WELCOME to the best read letters page in football . . . with unique prizes for every reader who gets his or her letter published!

Yes, throughout the season we'll be giving away a super metal lapel badge (pictured) to every person whose comments are published in 'Match' and each badge will carry that special 'Terrace Talk' logo.

It's a prize that money can't buy and one could be yours!

Plus we will be giving a prize of £10 for what we consider to be the star letter of the week and, of course, the sender will also receive a 'Terrace Talk' badge.

So get those letters coming in NOW and you could be the envy of your friends.

Write to: Michael Weavers, 'Terrace Talk' Editor, Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

I WOULD like to pay tribute to former Portsmouth player, manager and secretary Jimmy Dickinson, who died recently, aged 57.

Throughout his long and distinguished footballing life, Jimmy always played the game as it should be — hard but perfectly fair. He remained loyal to Pompey for many years.

The game, and especially Portsmouth FC, will be poorer without Jimmy Dickinson, gentleman footballer. Stephen Poxon, Gosport, Hants.

THE MILK Cup clash between Everton and Newport County drew just under 9,000 fans — the lowest attendance ever recorded at Goodison.

Surely, if Everton lowered their prices for that game to maybe 50p (ground) and £1 (stand), they would have got at least 50,000 fans and made more money than they did.

Alan Ryan (13), Anfield, Liverpool.

● FOLLOWING the 5-0 home humiliation at the hands of Liverpool, I doubt if many more Everton supporters would have turned up if Goodison offered free admission!

I WAS disappointed with the comments of Aston Villa manager Tony Barton in 'Match' when he said that "the directors of the club are worried about the possible violence in a meeting

with Barcelona", when referring to a proposed Super Cup showdown between the two clubs.

People here in Spain are very much against hooliganism and Villa would earn a standing ovation in Barcelona if they performed well. Jaime Arnaus, Barcelona, Spain.

● I THINK Tony Barton was referring to the Spanish style of football, which is certainly less friendly than the fans.

I BOUGHT the 1983 Match Weekly All-Star Soccer Special recently and I can tell all 'Match' readers that it's great value for money.

It's packed with great articles from top players, superb colour pictures and lots, lots more.

Well done 'Match'. I can't wait for the next Special. Derek Lynch, South East London.

WELL done Billy Bingham! Not content with his team's success in the World Cup Finals in Spain, the Northern Ireland boss managed to plot the downfall of West Germany in Belfast, and how many international managers can claim to have done that?

Billy's attacking formation totally dominated the Germans and his bold policy reaped deserved rewards with a 1-0 win. C. Neal, Syston, Leics.

WASN'T it smashing to see Kevin Keegan with his OBE, surely a just reward for his services to football over the years.

Kevin has always played with total dedication for club and country, and has been a great ambassador for British football. I hope he soon recovers from his eye injury so that he can continue to thrill football fans far and wide.

Philip Ashcroft (10), Bexley, Kent.



Peter Taylor . . . brave enough to take on the challenge at Derby.

BRAVO Peter Taylor! At last someone has got the guts to take over at Derby County and try to pull them out of their deep trouble.

Taylor is prepared to put his reputation on the line and will try to drag Derby away from the bottom of the Second Division . . . which is more than his former sidekick Brian Clough dared to do.

Paul Capps, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs.

● BE SENSIBLE! Why would Clough want to return to disastrous Derby when his re-shaped Forest side look like winning things again?

I'D like to congratulate Bobby Robson on his first victory as England manager.

Even though several key players were missing through injury, England achieved a remarkably good result by beating Greece 3-0 in Salonika.

England played like champions, despite the fact that Steve Coppell, Alan Devonshire, Ray Wilkins, Glenn Hoddle and Terry Butcher were missing.

This magnificent win takes a lot of pressure off the England boss, and an added bonus was the performance of Liverpool's Sammy Lee. He couldn't have wished for a better full international debut.

Hin-Lun Chan, Carshalton, Surrey.

WHY on earth is Danish star Allan Simonsen — a former European Footballer of the Year — not parading his considerable skills in the First Division?

I'm amazed that he signed for Charlton unless, of course, he fancies playing Third Division football next season!

Paul McCarthy, Newmarket, Suffolk.



NICE GUY CLOUGHIE

WHY is it that Brian Clough has such a ruthless reputation? Thanks to his generosity, I had an evening I'll never forget.

When Brian's Nottingham Forest side came to Poole last month for a friendly fixture, I waited outside Forest's hotel in the hope of getting one or two autographs.

The Forest boss noticed me, invited me into the hotel lounge to chat with the players and get autographs and then invited me to have dinner with himself and his team.

When I got back to college and told my friends that I'd just had dinner with the likes of Garry Birtles, Ian Wallace, Mark Proctor and Willie Young, they didn't believe me!

Thanks, Brian, for a night I'll remember always.
Tino Hernandez, Bournemouth, Dorset.

GOLDEN GOOF

ATTENDANCES may be tumbling at many football grounds, but at Hillsborough the situation has reached crisis point — according to the Golden Goof spotted by Gavin Harris, of Alton, Hants.

Shelf Wed	1	Bristol City	1
Taylor		Chandler	
H.T: 0-0		Att: 00,000	
(Sheffield Wed win on agg: 3-2.			
After extra time: 90 min 0-1)			

I'M fed up with football managers, players and commentators talking about "quality players". Can't they describe their star players in other ways?

One manager completely obsessed with the expression is Manchester United boss Ron Atkinson. He uses it so much that I expect him to change the name 'Old Trafford' into 'Quality Street'.

Derek Lawther, Belfast, N. Ireland.

● BECAUSE his wingers put over so many soft centres?

REFEREES should be more consistent over their punishment for the professional foul.

In two televised matches last month, we saw Glen Keeley sent off for pulling back Kenny Dalglish, and a week later, when Glenn Hoddle tripped Steve Coppell in a similar position, he escaped with a booking.

Referees should enforce the law to the full and Hoddle should have been sent off.

Anthony Lumb (14), Leyland, near Preston.

● AND what good would that have served except to appease the crowd baying for Hoddle's dismissal. A clumsy tackle hardly warrants a sending-off and the subsequent automatic ban.

I THINK it is a crime the way Leeds United's players are overlooked by England managers. Ron Greenwood never looked on Leeds favourably and Bobby Robson

has yet to name a United player in his full squad.

Trevor Cherry was the last Leeds player to win an England cap and that was, well, years ago.

Mr Robson should take a look at centre-half Paul Hart. If there's a better central defender in the country, I certainly haven't seen one.

Michael Durkin, Bingley, West Yorks.

CAMBRIDGE boss John Docherty deserves full marks for drafting young players Kevin Smith (17), Ray Nicholls (17), Keith Lockhart (18), Martin Goldsmith (18) and

Andy Sinton (16) into his first team.

These players, all products of United's successful youth team, have risen to the occasion by helping Cambridge to wins over Wolves and Leicester.

So perhaps now you'll stop making rude comments about Cambridge United.

A. Coleman, Fulbourn, Cambridge.

● RUDE? Me?



Martin Goldsmith . . . one of the many youngsters given a chance by Cambridge United.

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Paolo Rossi — blames Platini for his shortage of goals.

ROSSI INTA ROW!

THINGS are not so good as reported on the surface at star-studded Juventus.

The latest rumour suggests that much-criticised World Cup star Paolo Rossi has fallen out with French Import Michel Platini.

Rossi blames Platini for his poor goal-scoring form so far this season.

Platini, however, said: "I understand Paolo's problems but we are here to play for Juventus as a team and not just for ourselves.

"It isn't important who scores the goals so long as Juventus always score more than the opponents."

Rossi has tried to play down the rift in public by blaming the extra attention he has been receiving from Italy's tough defenders.

Meanwhile, goalkeeper Dino Zoff says he believes the rift will heal and has stated he is aiming to play in the next World Cup.

He said: "My wife, Ann-Maria, has never seen me play in the World Cup and I am aiming to give her one more chance in 1986."

INTERNATIONAL HOT LINE



JUNIOR ON SONG

ATTACKING Brazilian defender Junior is better known for his footwork than his singing.

But he is now aiming to be a big hit at both.

He has just signed a contract with the RCA record company, worth a reported £20,000, to produce three hit songs during 1983.

The record company are obviously hoping that he can get some of that scintillating Samba magic to rub off on their records.

■ THE pressures from the Catholic Church in Italy have forced West Germany star Hansi Muller to plan a wedding. For years, in West Germany, he lived happily with his girlfriend, Claudia, with no problems.

But now, playing with Inter-Milan, he has been forced to bow to religious pressures and regularise the arrangement.

■ GERMANY'S former World Cup star Rainer Bonhof has announced his intentions to retire from football at the end of the current season.

Rainer, 30, who played for Bayern Munich and Valencia while being hailed as the new Beckenbauer, is now back in the Bundesliga with Cologne.

■ NEW Russian boss Valeri Lobanowski has decided to give up his old job with Dynamo Kiev and concentrate solely on his national post. He will be in charge of the Soviet team at the end of this month.

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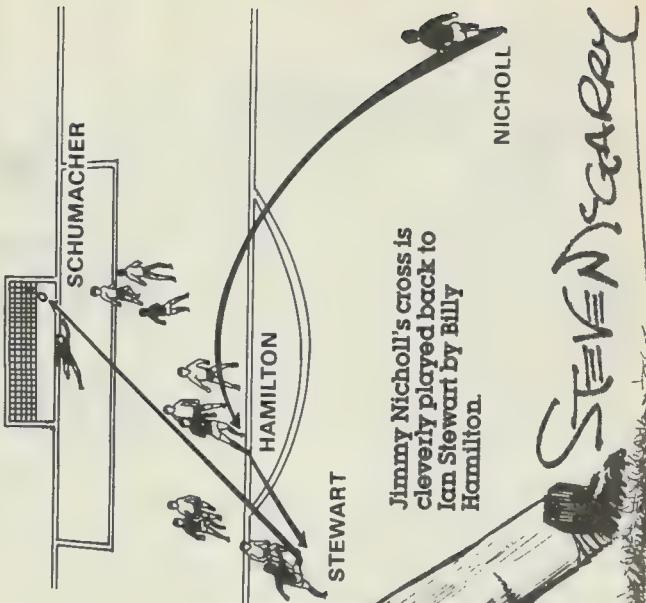
N. IRELAND 1 W. GERMANY 0

European Championship, Windsor Park, Belfast,
Wednesday, November 17, 1982.

Northern Ireland's young hero Ian Stewart dreamed as a boy of scoring the winning goal for his country against a top footballing nation. And last month that dream came true to life when the 21-year-old Queen's Park Rangers forward scored the only goal in N. Ireland's historic win over European Champions West Germany.

The goal will remain in the Belfast-born player's mind forever. He says: "The ball came across from Jimmy Nicholl on the right and Billy Hamilton chested it down as I ran onto it.

"I took the ball inside the full-back and bent it inside the far post," said Ian, whose match-winning goal was the first he had scored in senior soccer. "It was particularly pleasing because it was the first time I had played for my country in my home town of Belfast and all my family and friends were watching."



**GOLDEN
GOAL!**

Irish hero Ian Stewart tends off a determined challenge from West Germany's Uli Stielike during that memorable game in Belfast.

Jimmy Nicholl's cross is cleverly played back to Ian Stewart by Billy Hamilton.

NICHOLL

STEWART

HAMILTON

SCHUMACHER

NICHOLL



THE place of Tottenham among the country's football elite is reflected in the grand style of their programme.

Although costing 40p, its 32 pages are packed with colour pictures and interesting articles, and supporters certainly get value for money.

We looked at their Milk Cup programme for the Brighton visit and it included a fascinating insight into Tottenham full back Chris Hughton through the eyes of brother Henry, the Crystal Palace player. And there was an interesting coaching article by Eire winger Tony Galvin about how to increase speed.

STAR RATING GUIDE: ★★★★ Superb; ★★★ Good; ★★ Satisfactory; ★ Poor.

How the Tottenham programme fared: Content: ★★★ Pictures: ★★★ Colour: ★★★ Information: ★★★ Entertainment: ★★★ Value for money: ★★★★

PROGRAMME

REVIEW SPOT

OFFER: 1968 FA Cup Final (Arsenal v Leeds). **WANTS:** One of the following: 1977 FA Cup Final (Liverpool v Manchester United), 1980 European Cup Winners' Cup Final (Arsenal v Valencia), 1971 FA Cup Final (Arsenal v Liverpool).

Senal Muhiddin, 149 Waverley Road, Tottenham, London N17.

OFFER: Ten assorted programmes plus the 1979 FA Cup Final (Arsenal v Manchester United).

WANTS: Swansea v Chelsea (1980), Newcastle v Chelsea (1981), Sheffield Wednesday v Chelsea (1981) and Chelsea v Derby (1980).

Jimmy Kellert, 2 Wilton Avenue, Chiswick, London W4 2HY.

OFFER: 1982 Gillingham v Reading, West Ham, West Brom and Oxford. **WANTS:** Plymouth v Gillingham from last season.

Simon Patterson, 84 Grantham Road, Bracebridge Heath, Lincoln.

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- 2 Who scored the Irish winner against Spain?



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Entry form

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Just answer the six questions — based on League venues — and write them down on the form (below), fill in your name and address, and send it off to: Supporters Guide Competition, Match Weekly, 14 Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough PE2 0UF.

The senders of the first six correct entries pulled out of the 'Match Weekly' postbag will receive a copy.

Entries for the competition close on Friday, December 17 and the results will be announced in our January 8 issue.

The Travelling Supporters' Guide to FOOTBALL LEAGUE CLUBS



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The questions are:

- 1 Which League club plays at Cleethorpes?
- 2 Where do Wigan Athletic play?
- 3 Newcastle play at St James's Park, who plays at the other one?
- 4 Who plays at Boundary Park?
- 5 Field Mill is the home of which club?
- 6 What is the name of Torquay's ground?

Entry form

1.....

2.....

3.....

4.....

5.....

6.....

Name.....

Address.....

Age.....

IAN RUSH LIVERPOOL

match

WELSH international
Ian Rush, Liverpool's
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despite the attentions
of Notts County's
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SPOTLIGHT ON
NEWCASTLE AND
ENGLAND STAR

Terry McDermott

FULL NAME: Terence McDermott.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Liverpool, December 8, 1951.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 5ft 9ins/11st 4lb.
MARRIED: No.
CAR: Capri 2000.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Bury and Liverpool.
TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: None.
CLUB NICKNAME: Unprintable!
FAVOURITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYERS AND WHY: Kevin Keegan, Kenny Dalglish and Bryan Robson — because he's my mate!
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAMS: Bury and Liverpool.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Kenny Dalglish — because he's Scottish!
BEST ALL-TIME BRITISH TEAM: Liverpool between 1974 and 1982.

ALL-TIME INTERNATIONAL XI: Banks (England), Vogts, Beckenbauer (West Germany), Passarella (Argentina), Junior (Brazil), Robson, Charlton R, Keegan (All England), Pele (Brazil), Maradona (Argentina), Dalglish (Scotland).
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUNDS: Manchester City and Leeds.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN STADIUM AT WHICH YOU HAVE PLAYED: Olympic Stadium, Rome.
BEST GOAL SCORED: I've been lucky enough to score so many.
BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: Alan Mullery for Fulham against Leicester.
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Liverpool.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Winning the European Cup for the first time with Liverpool in 1977.
OWN MAGIC MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: Being nominated for both Player of the Year awards in 1979-80.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Not winning an FA Cup winners medal (yet!).
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Racing, snooker and golf.
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Horse racing people and honest people.
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Some referees, lying and false people.
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Fawlty Towers.
TV SHOW YOU ALWAYS SWITCH OFF: 'Dangermouse' and political programmes.
FAVOURITE READING: Sporting Life.
FAVOURITE POP STAR: My brother Peter.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Sandwiches.
FAVOURITE DRINK: Lager, blackcurrant and lemonade.
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Vincent O'Brien's stables in Ireland.
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Some players/ Olivia Newton-John.
BEST FILM SEEN IN PAST YEAR: I don't watch many.

BEST FRIEND: Quite a few — I hope!
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Billy Urriss, Joe Harvey and the Liverpool coaching staff.
WHAT YOU DON'T LIKE ABOUT FOOTBALL: Bad referees and actors.
SUPERSTITIONS: I'm always third out of the tunnel.
PRE-MATCH MEAL: Steak and toast.
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: 25 full England caps.
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy and win something with Newcastle.
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: As above.
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: The dole!
PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: My little mate, Sammy Lee.
WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: Whoever presents cheques to pools winners.
ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Work hard and listen to good advice.



BLAME ME!

...FOR CITY GOALS SHORTAGE

I'M not frightened by reports that Manchester City are looking around for new strikers.

If there is the prospect of manager John Bond replacing me, then I would be more disappointed than bitter. But I know in my own mind that at the end of the day I'm the best man for the job.

That claim is backed up by my consistent goals record over 13 years in League football.

I don't believe the problems at City have reached such desperate measures — even though I am the first to admit that I have dropped way below the high standards I demand from myself.

It would be unfair to place the total blame for City's leanest spell of the season squarely at the door of myself and fellow striker Kevin Reeves.

But four successive games during November without a goal is far from acceptable and, as the senior partner up front, I accept most of the responsibility for the famine.

In fact, up to last weekend's visit by Arsenal, I had gone seven matches without a goal after scoring four in successive games.

I am a firm believer in taking responsibility because it's unfair to spread blame among your team-mates in a bid to cover up your own failings.

It's quite possible that some of our colleagues at Maine Road have probably lost a little confidence in Kevin and myself.

But I would defend Kevin in some respects. I think my inferior displays have reflected on him because, on the whole, he hasn't been playing that badly.

He has never been a noted goalscorer but he has an insatiable appetite for hard graft and he maintained that throughout the lean spell.

There is always pressure when strikers struggle and your place in the team is always in jeopardy.

Kevin and myself have been constantly reminded of our goalscorng problems in the local press and I suppose that adds to the pressure.

But I haven't lost my confidence and I'm sure in my own mind that I will soon find



THE DAVID CROSS COLUMN

The Manchester City striker talks frankly about the goal famine at Maine Road and the crucial weeks ahead.

my way back into the scoring business. I am the first to realise and appreciate when I have fallen below my own high standards without anyone telling me, and it's up to me to continue working hard to solve the problem.

I don't know what the problem is. If I did, then I would have solved it straight away.

But when you are going through a bad spell, you probably start complicating your game by being over-anxious and ignoring the simple things you have been doing when on form.

The problem is mine and mine alone, and I'll solve it, you can be sure of that.

Apart from a personal point of view, November was a disappointing month for the club.

We fell from second to ninth in the First Division and bowed out of the Milk Cup in a replay at Southampton which denied us another 'derby' clash with United in the Fourth Round.

We were sick about that 4-0 defeat at Southampton, apart from missing out on the United tie, but we had no complaints about the outcome — you can't win the margin is that big.

However, I would imagine that Southampton were more than gratified by that final scoreline considering they were only winning 1-0 with twenty minutes left.

As with the tame goalless home draw with Birmingham, we applied plenty of pressure without ever creating the kind of goal opportunities we have been making this season.

I think we forced something like 27 corners against Birmingham, but they battled well to get a point.

We could have few complaints either about the 3-0 defeat at Nottingham Forest, who are the most improved team in the League.

We held them fairly well for most of the first half only to concede a goal either side of the interval.

They looked a good, solid and creative side with Garry Birtles and Ian Wallace

causing a lot of problems for our defence.

Everyone has been surprised at the sudden return to form of Garry following his return from Manchester United, but I have always maintained, even through his lean spell at Old Trafford, that he is a good player.

A £1 million player doesn't become bad overnight and, at United, he did a lot of good things that perhaps were not always right at the time.

In many respects, he's a good yardstick for me in my present situation at Maine Road. He was anxious to do well at United and, as a result, complicated his game.

It looks as though Brian Clough has a side with the potential of the team that won Forest the League Championship and the European Cup twice a few years ago.

I would say that they are capable of giving Liverpool a good run for the Championship, along with Manchester United because of their quality strength in depth.

As for City, well December is going to be a crucial month for us if we are to re-establish ourselves among the leading contenders.

We've got a tricky game at Luton this weekend, because apart from being one of the most entertaining sides in the division, they are also one of the most unpredictable.

Then we entertain Brighton who are battling for points at the opposite end of the table before the showdown with Liverpool at Anfield at Christmas.

See you in two weeks.

● David Cross was talking to Melvyn Beck.

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MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

Sunday, Nov. 28

Division Three

MILLWALL (0) 1 (Chatterton, pen 82)
READING (0) 1 (Earles 74)

Att: 3,578

Millwall: Sansome 7, Stevens 6, Robinson 5, Massey 5, Allardice 6, Roberts 6, Horrix 6, Neal 7, Aylott 7. **★MARTIN 8**, West 6 (sub. Chatterton 6).

Reading: Judge 7, Williams 6, White 6, Bevan 6, Barnes 6, Wood 7, Bason 7, Earles 7. **★DIXON 8**, O'Sullivan 6, Donnellan 7

Referee: J. Hunting (Leicester)

Match Rating: ★★★

Division Four

NORTHAMPTON (1) 3 (Massey 12, pen 64, Burrows 88)

DARLINGTON (0) 3 (Walsh 60, Dunn 61, 85)

Att: 2,599

Northampton: Freeman 6, Tucker 5, Phillips 5, Gage 6, Burrows 7, Coffill 5, Saxby 5, Buchanan 7, Sandy 7. **★MASSEY 8**, Denyer 6

Darlington: Cuff 7, Liddle 5, Wilson 6, Smith 6, Rhodes 6, Kamara 7, Gilbert 6, McLean 7, Honour 6. **★WALSH 9**, Dunn 8.

Referee: A. Seville (Birmingham)

Match Rating: ★★★

Monday, Nov. 29

Milk Cup, Third Round, Replay

WEST HAM (1) 2 (Stewart 44, Clark 116)

LINCOLN (0) 1 (Clark, og 73)

After Extra Time

Att: 13,686

West Ham: Parkes 6, Stewart 6, Lampard 6, Bonds 6, Martin 6, Neighbour 6 (sub. Barnes 6), Van der Elst 5, Goddard 7, Clark 7.

★ALLEN 8, Pike 7

Lincoln: Feigate 8, Carr 7, Neale 8, **★COCKERILL 9**, Peake 7, Thompson 7, Hibberd 7, Turner 7, Hobson 7, Bell 7, Shipley 7

Referee: A. R. Glasson (Salisbury)

Match Rating: ★★★★

Tuesday, Nov. 30

Milk Cup, Fourth Round

ARSENAL (1) 1 (Sunderland, pen 41)

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 0

Att: 17,742

Arsenal: Wood 6, O'Shea 6, Sansom 6, Talbot 6, O'Leary 6, Whyte 6, Davis 6, Sunderland 6, Robson 6, Woodcock 5. **★RIX 7**

Huddersfield: Cox 6, Brown 6, Burke 6, Stanton 6. **★SUTTON 7**, Hanvey 6, Lillis 6, Doyle 5, Russell 6, Wilson 6, Cowling 6.

Referee: A. Seville (Birmingham)

Match Rating: ★

BURNLEY (2) 3 (McGee 12, Taylor 35, Brazier, og 73)

BIRMINGHAM (0) 2 (Evans 61, Handysides 62)

Att: 10,405

Burnley: Stevenson 6, Laws 7, Wharton 6, Cassidy 8, Phelan 8, Flynn 7, Dobson 8, Steven 6, Hamilton 7. **★TAYLOR 9**, McGee 7.

Birmingham: Coton 6, Hagan 6 (sub. Phillips), Brazier 6, Stevenson 6, Blake 5, Broadhurst 6. **★DILLON 8**, Evans 6, Ferguson 7, Curbishley 7, Handysides 6.

Referee: T. Mills (Barnsley)

Match Rating: ★★★★

LIVERPOOL (1) 2 (Lawrenson 42, Fairclough 79)

NORWICH (0) 0

Att: 13,235

Liverpool: Grobbelaar 5, Neal 6, Kennedy 4, Thompson 4, Johnston 7, Hansen 7, Dalglish 8, Lee 8, Rush 7, Lawrenson 8 (sub. **★FAIRCLough 9**), Souness 7.

Norwich: **★WOODS 9**, Haylock 6, Van Wyk 4, McGuire 7, Walford 6, Watson 5, Barham 8, O'Neill 8, Deehan 8, Bertschin 7, Hareide 7.

Referee: D. Shaw (Cheshire)

Match Rating: ★★★

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8	Excellent
7	Good
6	Adequate
5	Off form
4	Poor

MATCH RATINGS

★★★★★	A classic
★★★★	Good value
★★★	Satisfactory
★★	Dull
★	A waste of money

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (1) 1 (McCulloch 16)

BARNESLEY (0) 0

Att: 33,354

Sheff Wed: **★BOLDER 8**, Sterland 7, Bailey 6, Smith 6, Lyons 7, Mircoevic 7, Megson 7, Taylor 7, Bannister 7, McCulloch 7, Pearson 7.

Barnsley: Horn 7, Joyce 7, Chambers 6, Glavin 7, Banks 7, McCarthy 6, Souter 6, Campbell 7, Parker 7, Ronson 7. **★BARROWCLough 8**.

Referee: K. Walsmley (Blackpool)

Match Rating: ★★★

Division Three

BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 1 (Parkin 81)

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (Dawtry 57)

Att: 4,358

Bristol Rovers: Kite 7. **★SLATTER 8**, Williams, B. 6, Williams, G. 6, Parkin 7, McCaffery 6, Holloway 7, Channon 7, Stephens 7, Randall 7, Barrett 6 (sub. Kelly 6). Bournemouth: **★ALLEN 9**, Golac 7, Solley 6, Spackman 6, Brignull 6, Impey 7, Carter 6, Nightingale 6, Morgan 7, Lee 6, Dawtry 7.

Referee: D. H. Brazier (Northampton)

Match Rating: ★★★

Wednesday, Dec. 1

Milk Cup, Fourth Round

MANCHESTER UNITED (1) 2 (McQueen 19, Whiteside 89)

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 0

Att: 28,378

Man Utd: Bailey 6, **★DUXBURY 8**, Albiston 6, Moses 6, Moran 6, McQueen 6, Robson 6, Muhran 6, Stapleton 7, Whiteside 5, Coppell 7.

Southampton: Shilton 5, **★AGBOOLA 8**, Rose 6 (sub. Puckett), Williams 6, Nicholl 6, Wright 6, Holmes 6, Moran 7, Cassells 5, Armstrong 5, Wallace 5.

Referee: G. Courtney (Spennymoor)

Match Rating: ★★★

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (1) 2 (Wallace 3, Robertson, pen 51)

BRENTFORD (0) 0

Att: 16,479

Nott'm Forest: Van Breukelen 7, Swain 7, Gunn 7, Todd 7, Young 7, Bowyer 7, Proctor 7 (sub. Walsh 6), Wallace 7, Birles 7. **★HODGE 8**, Robertson 7.

Brentford: Roche 6, Rowe 6, Wilkins 6, Booker 6, Whitehead 6, Harris 6, Kamara 6, Joseph 6, Mahoney 6 (sub. Bowen), Bowles 6. **★ROBERTS 7**.

Referee: J. Worrall (Warrington)

Match Rating: ★★★

TOTTENHAM (0) 1 (Villa 64)

LUTON (0) 0

Att: 27,461

Spurs: **★CLEMENCE 8**, Hughton 7, Price 5, O'Reilly 7, Villa 6, Roberts 6, Mabbott 7, Archibald 6, Galvin 5, Hoddle 7, Crooks 6.

Luton: **★FINDLAY 8**, Stephens 5, Money 6, Horton 7, Goodey 7, Donaghy 7, Hill 7, Stein 7, Walsh 6, Turner 5 (sub. Antic 6), Moss 6.

Referee: J. E. Martin (Alton)

Match Rating: ★★★

SCOTTISH

Division Two

COWDENBEATH (1) 1 (McIntosh 35)

BRECHIN (2) 3 (Stewart 17, 61, Mackie 42)

Att: 720

Friday, Dec. 3

Division Three

SOUTHEND (2) 2 (Mercer 24, Nelson 41)

PRESTON (2) 3 (Elliott 10, Houston 13, Walsh 80)

Att: 3,749

Southend: Keeley 6, Stead 6 (sub. Yates 6), Hadley 6, **★CLARK 8**, Utulakowski 6, Cusack 6, Pountney 7, Phillips 5, Mercer 5, Greaves 5, Nelson 7.

Preston: **★LITCHFIELD 9**, Westwell 6, McAtee 7, O'Riordan 7, Coleman 7, Gowling 8, Walsh 7, Sayer 7, Elliott 7, Naughton 8, Houston 7.

Referee: A. Robinson (Waterloo) Match Rating: ★★★

Division Four

COLCHESTER (0) 0

YORK (0) 0

Att: 2,204

Colchester: Walker 6, Cook 6, Ward 6, Longhorn 5, Wignall 5, Hunter 6, Allinson 6, Leslie 5.

York: **★JONES 7**, Evans 6, Hay 6, Sbragia 6, Smith 6, Hood 5, Ford 6, Crosby 6, Walwyn 5, Byrne 5, Pollard 6.

Referee: A. Gunn (Burgess Hill)

Match Rating: ★★

Sendings Off: Wignall (Colchester), Byrne (York)

CREWE (0) 1 (Scott 82)

TORQUAY (0) 1 (Little 74)

Att: 1,576

Crewe: Smith 6, Purdie 7, **★BOWERS 8**, Salathiel 6, Scott 7, Hart 7, Haselgrave 7, Wright 6, Waller 6 (sub. Craven), Evans 5, Cliss 6.

Torquay: Horn 6, Doyle 6, Wilson 7, O'Donnell 6, **★LITTLE 8**, Bould 7, Grapes 6, Bishop 7, Cooper 6, Anderson 6, Gallagher 6.

Referee: M. L. Wilson (Morecambe)

Match Rating: ★★★

HALIFAX (2) 3 (Spooner 24, 72, Allatt 42)

NORTHAMPTON (1) 2 (Massey, pen 2, Denyer 52)

Match abandoned 78 minutes - fog

Att: 1,229

Halifax: Smelt 7, Nobbs 7, Goodman 6, Evans 7, Smith 7, **★HENDRIE 8**, Ward 7, Spooner 7, Allatt 7, Staniforth 7, Wood 6.

Northampton: Freeman 7, Tucker 6, Brady 7, Gage 6, Burrows 7, Coffill 6, **★HEELEY 8**, Buchanan 7, Sandy 7 (sub. Muir), Massey 6 Denyer 7.

Referee: J. Worrall (Warrington)

Match Rating: ★★★

Saturday, Dec. 4

Division One

ASTON VILLA (0) 1 (Cowans, pen 83)

WEST HAM (0) 0

Att: 24,658

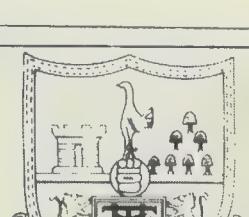
Aston Villa: Rimmer 7, Jones 7, Williams 7, **★EVANS 9**, McNaught 7, Mortimer 6 (sub. Walters 8), Bremner 7, Shaw 7, Withe 7, Cowans 8, Morley 7.

West Ham: **★PARKES 9**, Stewart 8, Lampard 7, Orr 7, Martin 8, Brush 6, Van der Elst 5, Goddard 6, Clark 6, Allen 5, Pike 6.

Referee: E. Read (Bristol)

Match Rating: ★★★

Sending Off: Stewart (West Ham)



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MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

COVENTRY (2) 2 (Hunt 8, Whitton 20)
BRIGHTON (0) 0

Att: 8,054

Coventry: Sealey 7, Thomas 7, Roberts 7, Butterworth 7, Dyson 6, Gillespie 6, Whitton 6, Jacobs 6, Hateley 6, Thompson 7, **HUNT** 8.

Brighton: Digweed 6, Shanks 6, Nelson 6, Greish 6, **FOSTER** 7, Stevens 6, Case 5, McNab 6 (sub Ryan 5), Robinson 6, Ward 6, Gatting 5.

Referee: M. Heath (Stoke)

Match Rating: ★★★

EVERTON (0) 0

BIRMINGHAM (0) 0

Att: 13,703

Everton: Arnold 5, Stevens 5, Bailey 6, Higgins 4, Wright 5, McMahon 5, **CURRAN** 7, Heath 6, Sharp 5, King 5, Sheedy 5.

Birmingham: Coton 5, Brazier 6, Van den Hauwe 5, Stevenson 4, Blake 5, Broadhurst 4, Dillon 5, Evans 5, Ferguson 6, Curbishley 6, **HANDYSIDES** 7.

Referee: G. Courtney (Co Durham)

Match Rating: ★★

MANCHESTER CITY (0) 2 (Caton 52, 88)

ARSENAL (1) (McDermott 85)

Att: 23,057

Man City: Corrigan 7, Ranson 6, McDonald 6, Bond 6, Power 6, **CATON** 9, Tueart 8, Reeves 5, Cross 5, Hartford 7, Baker 6.

Arsenal: **WOOD** 8, O'Shea 5 (sub. McDermott), Sansom 7, Talbot 6, O'Leary 7, Whyte 7, Davis 6, Sunderland 7, Chapman 5, Robson 6, Rix 6.

Referee: D. Lloyd (Worcester)

Match Rating: ★★★

NORWICH (0) 1 (Deehan 75)

LIVERPOOL (0) 0

Att: 22,909

Norwich: Woods 8, Haylock 8, Hareide 8, McGuire 8, Walford 8, Watson 8, **BARHAM** 9 (sub Jack), O'Neill 8, Deehan 8, Bertschin 8, Van Wyk 8.

Liverpool: Grobelaar 7, Neal 6, Kennedy 6, Thompson 6, **JOHNSTON** 8, Hansen 6, Dalglish 7, Lee 7, Rush 6, Lawrenson 6, Souness 6.

Referee: J. Hunting (Leicester)

Match Rating: ★★★★

NOTTS COUNTY (2) 3 (McCulloch 2, Mair 37 Christie 61)

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (2) 2 (Wallace 5, Young 44)

Att: 23,065

Notts County: Avramovic 7, Benjamin 7, Worthington 6, Hunt 6, **KILCLINE** 8, Richards 6, Chedzoy 7, Christie 7, McCulloch 6, Hooks 7, Mair 6.

Nott's Forest: Sutton 6, Swain 7, Gunn 6, Todd 7, Young 7, Bowyer 5, Proctor 6 (sub Walsh 7), Wallace 7, Birtles 7, Hodge 7, **ROBERTSON** 8.

Referee: D. Scott (Burnley)

Match Rating: ★★★★

Sending Off: McCulloch (Notts County)

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Wallace 74)

STOKE (0) 0

Att: 17,198

Southampton: Shilton 7, Agbola 7, Mills 6, **WILLIAMS** 8, Nicholl 6, Wright 7, Holmes 6, Puckett 6, Moran 6, Armstrong 6, Wallace 6.

Stoke: Fox 7, Parkin 6, Hampton 7, Bracewell 6, **WATSON** 8, McAughtrie 7, Maguire 6 (sub Berry), McIlroy 6, O'Callaghan 7, Thomas 7, Chamberlain, N 6.

Referee: D. Reed (Uxbridge)

Match Rating: ★★

Sending Off: Bracewell (Stoke)

SUNDERLAND (1) 2 (Atkins 8, Worthington 69)

IPSWICH (2) 3 (Gates 8, Brazil 40, 66)

Att: 15,000

Sunderland: Turner 6, Nicholl 6, Munro 7, **ATKINS** 8, Elliott 7, Hindmarch 5, Buckley 7, Rowell 6, Worthington 6, McCoist 6, Cummins 6.

Ipswich: Cooper 6, Burley 7, Barnes 7, **THIJSEN** 8, Osman 7, Butcher 7, Wark 6, McCall 7, Mariner 7, Brazil 7, Gates 7.

Referee: T. Fitzharris (Bolton)

Match Rating: ★★★

SWANSEA (0) 2 (Curtis 51, Latchford 82)

LUTON (0) 0

Att: 9,556

Swansea: Davies 6, **STANLEY** 8, Hadzibabic 7, Charles 7, Kennedy 6, Rajkovic 6, Curtis 7 (sub. James, L 6), James, R 7, Mahoney 6, Stevenson 6, Latchford 6.

Luton: Findlay 6, Stephens 6, Money 5, **HORTON** 7, Goodey 5, Donaghy 6, Hill 6, Stein 6, Walsh 5, Turner 6 (sub. Antic 6), Moss 6.

Referee: B. Newsome (Salop)

Match Rating: ★★★

TOTTENHAM (1) 1 (Galvin 1)

WEST BROM (0) 1 (Mills 73)

Att: 26,208

Spurs: Clemence 7, Hughton 7, Price 5, O'Reilly 6, Villa 6, Roberts 7, Mabbott 7, Archibald 7, Galvin 7, **HODDLE** 8, Crooks 6.

West Brom: **GODDEN** 8, Whitehead 6, Statham 7, Zondervan 7, Wile 6, Robertson 6, Jol 6, Cross 6, Regis 7, Owen 7, Eastoe 6 (sub. Mills).

Referee: M. J. Bodenham (Sussex)

Match Rating: ★★★

WATFORD (0) 0

MANCHESTER UNITED (0) 1 (Whiteside 58)

Att: 25,669

Watford: Sherwood 7, Ruce 6, Rostron 6, **TAYLOR** 8, Sims 6, Bolton 6, Callaghan 7, Blissett 7, Jenkins 6 (sub. Johnson 6), Jackett 7, Barnes 6.

Man Utd: Bailey 7, Duxbury 7, Albiston 7, Moses 8, Buchan 6, McQueen 7, Robson 8, Muhren 6, Stapleton 7, **WHITESIDE** 9, Coppel 7.

Referee: A. R. Glasson (Salisbury)

Match Rating: ★★★

Sending Off: Lee (Chelsea)

Division Two

BLACKBURN (0) 1 (Brotherston 63)

BARNESLEY (0) 1 (Campbell 57)

Att: 6,769

Blackburn: Gennos 6, Branagan 6, Rathbone 5, **RANDELL** 7, Mair 6, Fazakerley 5, Miller 5, Hamilton 5, Bell 6, Stonehouse 5 (sub. Garner 5), Brotherston 6.

Barnsley: Horn 6, Joyce 5, Chambers 5, Glavin 5, Ainscow 6, **McCARTHY** 7, Souter 5, Campbell 6, Cunningham 6, Ronson 5, Barrowclough 5.

Referee: D. Shaw (Sandbach)

Match Rating: ★★

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Wallace 74)

STOKE (0) 0

Att: 17,198

Southampton: Shilton 7, Agbola 7, Mills 6, **WILLIAMS** 8, Nicholl 6, Wright 7, Holmes 6, Puckett 6, Moran 6, Armstrong 6, Wallace 6.

Stoke: Fox 7, Parkin 6, Hampton 7, Bracewell 6, **WATSON** 8, McAughtrie 7, Maguire 6 (sub Berry), McIlroy 6, O'Callaghan 7, Thomas 7, Chamberlain, N 6.

Referee: D. Reed (Uxbridge)

Match Rating: ★★

Sending Off: Bracewell (Stoke)

SUNDERLAND (1) 2 (Atkins 8, Worthington 69)

IPSWICH (2) 3 (Gates 8, Brazil 40, 66)

Att: 15,000

Sunderland: Turner 6, Nicholl 6, Munro 7, **ATKINS** 8, Elliott 7, Hindmarch 5, Buckley 7, Rowell 6, Worthington 6, McCoist 6, Cummins 6.

Ipswich: Cooper 6, Burley 7, Barnes 7, **THIJSEN** 8, Osman 7, Butcher 7, Wark 6, McCall 7, Mariner 7, Brazil 7, Gates 7.

Referee: T. Fitzharris (Bolton)

Match Rating: ★★★

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Wallace 74)

STOKE (0) 0

Att: 17,198

Southampton: Shilton 7, Agbola 7, Mills 6, **WILLIAMS** 8, Nicholl 6, Wright 7, Holmes 6, Puckett 6, Moran 6, Armstrong 6, Wallace 6.

Stoke: Fox 7, Parkin 6, Hampton 7, Bracewell 6, **WATSON** 8, McAughtrie 7, Maguire 6 (sub Berry), McIlroy 6, O'Callaghan 7, Thomas 7, Chamberlain, N 6.

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Referee: T. Fitzharris (Bolton)

Match Rating: ★★★

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STOKE (0) 0

Att: 17,198

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STOKE (0) 0

Att: 17,198

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Referee: D. Reed (Uxbridge)

Match Rating: ★★

Sending Off: Bracewell (Stoke)

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IPSWICH (2) 3 (Gates 8, Brazil 40, 66)

Att: 15,000

Sunderland: Turner 6, Nicholl 6, Munro 7, **ATKINS** 8, Elliott 7, Hindmarch 5, Buckley 7, Rowell 6, Worthington 6, McCoist 6, Cummins 6.

Ipswich: Cooper 6, Burley 7, Barnes 7, **THIJSEN** 8, Osman 7, Butcher 7, Wark 6, McCall 7, Mariner 7, Brazil 7, Gates 7.

Referee: T. Fitzharris (Bolton)

Match Rating: ★★★

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Wallace 74)

STOKE (0) 0

Att: 17,198

Southampton: Shilton 7, Agbola 7, Mills 6, **WILLIAMS** 8, Nicholl 6, Wright 7, Holmes 6, Puckett 6, Moran 6, Armstrong 6, Wallace 6.

Stoke: Fox 7, Parkin 6, Hampton 7, Bracewell 6, **WATSON** 8, McAughtrie 7, Maguire 6 (sub Berry), McIlroy 6, O'Callaghan 7, Thomas 7, Chamberlain, N 6.

Referee: D. Reed (Uxbridge)

Match Rating: ★★

Sending Off: Bracewell (Stoke)

SUNDERLAND (1) 2 (Atkins 8, Worthington 69)

IPSWICH (2) 3 (Gates 8, Brazil 40, 66)

Att: 15,000

Sunderland: Turner 6, Nicholl 6, Munro 7, **ATKINS** 8, Elliott 7, Hindmarch 5, Buckley 7, Rowell 6, Worthington 6, McCoist 6, Cummins 6.

Ipswich: Cooper 6, Burley 7, Barnes 7, **THIJSEN** 8, Osman 7, Butcher 7, Wark 6, McCall 7, Mariner 7, Brazil 7, Gates 7.

Referee: T. Fitzharris (Bolton)

Match Rating: ★★★

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Wallace 74)

STOKE (0) 0

Att: 17,198

Southampton: Shilton 7, Agbola 7, Mills 6, **WILLIAMS** 8, Nicholl 6, Wright 7, Holmes 6, Puckett 6, Moran 6, Armstrong 6, Wallace 6.

Stoke: Fox 7, Parkin 6, Hampton 7, Bracewell 6, **WATSON** 8, McAughtrie 7, Maguire 6 (sub Berry), McIlroy 6, O'Callaghan 7, Thomas 7, Chamberlain, N 6.

Referee: D. Reed (Uxbridge)

Match Rating: ★★

Sending Off: Bracewell (Stoke)

SUNDERLAND (1) 2 (Atkins 8, Worthington 69)

IPSWICH (2) 3 (Gates 8, Brazil 40, 66)

Att: 15,000

Sunderland: Turner 6, Nicholl 6, Munro 7, **ATKINS** 8, Elliott 7, Hindmarch 5, Buckley 7, Rowell 6, Worthington 6, McCoist 6, Cummins 6.

Ipswich: Cooper 6, Burley 7, Barnes 7, **THIJSEN** 8, Osman 7, Butcher 7, Wark 6, McCall 7, Mariner 7, Brazil 7, Gates 7.

Referee: T. Fitzharris (Bolton)

Match Rating: ★★★

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Wallace 74)

STOKE (0) 0

Att: 17,198

Southampton: Shilton 7, Agbola 7, Mills 6, **WILLIAMS** 8, Nicholl 6, Wright 7, Holmes 6, Puckett 6, Moran 6, Armstrong 6, Wallace 6.

Stoke: Fox 7, Parkin 6, Hampton 7, Bracewell 6, **WATSON** 8, McAughtrie 7, Maguire 6 (sub Berry), McIlroy 6, O'Callaghan 7, Thomas 7, Chamberlain, N 6.

Referee: D. Reed (Uxbridge)

Match Rating: ★★

Sending Off: Bracewell (Stoke)

SUNDERLAND (1) 2 (Atkins 8, Worthington 69)

IPSWICH (2) 3 (Gates 8, Brazil 40, 66)

Att: 15,000

Sunderland: Turner 6, Nicholl 6, Munro 7, **ATKINS** 8, Elliott 7, Hindmarch 5, Buckley 7, Rowell 6, Worthington 6, McCoist 6, Cummins 6.

Ipswich: Cooper 6, Burley 7, Barnes 7, **THIJSEN** 8, Osman 7, Butcher 7, Wark 6, McCall 7, Mariner 7, Brazil 7,

MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

WOLVES (3) 4 (Eves 3, 31, Cartwright 20, Dodd 83)
MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 0
Wolves: Burridge 8, Humphrey 8, Palmer 8, Hibbit 8, Pender 8, Dodd 8, Cartwright 8, Clarke 8, **GRAY 9**, Eves 8, Matthews 8.
Middlesbrough: Platt 6, Shearer 4, Bolton 4, Baxter 4, Nattrass 6, Wood 6, Currie 4, Kennedy 5, Otto 5, Hankin 4, **BELL 7**.
Referee: C. Thomas (Porthcawl)
Match Rating: ★★★★

Division Three

BRADFORD (1) 2 (Gray 31, 60)
PORTSMOUTH (0) 2 (Biley 67, 78)
Att: 4,961
Bradford: McManus 6, Podd 7, Chapman 7, **LESTER 8**, Cooke 6, Jackson 6, Ellis 7, Gray 7, Campbell 6, McNiven 7, Mellor 6.
Portsmouth: Knight 6, McLaughlin 6, Sullivan 7, Doyle 6, **HOWE 8**, Rollings 7, Webb 6, Tait 7, Rafferty 7, Biley 7, Rogers 6.
Referee: N. Glover (Chorley)
Match Rating: ★★★★

BRENTFORD (1) 4 (Kamara 41, Mahoney 47, Joseph 65, 85)
WREXHAM (1) 1 (King 2)
Att: 5,606
Brentford: Roche 7, Rowe 6, Wilkins 7, Booker 7, Whitehead 7, Walker 7, Kamara 7, Joseph 7, **MAHONEY 8**, Bowles 7, Roberts 7.
Wrexham: Brand 6, Hunt 6, Bater 5, Hill 6, Dowman 6, Muldoon 6 (sub. Baker 6), **ARKWRIGHT 8**, King 6, Keay 5, Gregory 7, Buxton 7.
Referee: B. Hill (Kettering)
Match Rating: ★★★
Sending Off: Bater (Wrexham)

BRISTOL ROVERS (2) 2 (Stephens 5, Kelly 17)
WALSALL (0) 0
Att: 4,822
Bristol Rovers: Kite 7, Slatter 6, Williams 8, Williams 7, Parkin 6, McCaffery 6, Holloway 7, **WILLIAMS 8**, D. Stephens 7, Kelly 6 (sub. Channon 7), Barrett 7.
Walsall: Kearns 6, Beech 7, Mower 7, O'Kelly 7, Sinnott 6, Hart 6, Rees 6, Preece 6, Kearns 7, **BUCKLEY 8**, Caswell 6.
Referee: D. Vickers (Ilford)
Match Rating: ★★★

CHESTERFIELD (0) 0
BOURNEMOUTH (0) 0
Att: 2,226
Chesterfield: **GREGORY 7**, Pollard 5, O'Neill 5 (sub. Robinson 6), Wilson 5, Green 5, Henson 5, Stirk 4, Kinsey 6, Henderson 5, Kowalski 6, Windridge 6.
Bournemouth: Allen 6, Golac 7, Sulley 6, Graham 7, Brignull 6, Impey 6, Carter 5, Nightingale 6, Morgan 7, **LEE 8**, Dawtry 7.
Referee: J. Lovatt (Crewe)
Match Rating: ★★★

DONCASTER (0) 2 (Douglas 46, Snodin, G 52)
CARDIFF (1) 2 (Micallef 13, Hemmerman 63)
Att: 3,078
Doncaster: Peacock 6, Russell 6, Watson 7, Lister 6, Wiggin 6, Cawthorne 6, Douglas 6, Owen 8, Austin 7, Snodin, G 7, **ROBERTSON 9**.
Cardiff: Dibble 6, Jones 6, Bodin 6, Micallef 7 (sub. Giles 7), Dwyer 7, Mullen 6, **HATTON 8**, Tong 6, Gibbons 6, Hemmerman 7, Lewis 6.
Referee: P. Tyladesley (Stockport)
Match Rating: ★★★★

LINCOLN (2) 3 (Bell 30, Neale 44, Cockerill 73)
MILLWALL (0) 1 (Massey 54)
Att: 4,244
Lincoln: Felgate 7, Carr 7, Neale 8, Cockerill 8, Peake 8, **THOMPSON 9**, Hibberd 7, Turner 7, Hobson 8, Bell 8, Simmonite 7.
Millwall: Sansome 7, Stevens 6, Robinson 6, Massey 7, Allardyce 7, Roberts 6, **HORRIX 8**, Chatterton 6, Aylott 7, McLeary 6, West 7.
Referee: A. Seville (Birmingham)
Match Rating: ★★★

NEWPORT (1) 2 (Elsey 43, Lowndes 59)
GILLINGHAM (1) 1 (Sutton 16)
Att: 3,727
Newport: Kendall 6, Jones 6, Relish 7, Bailey 7, Boyle 7, Stroud 6, **LOWNDES 8**, Aldridge 6, Tynan 6, Vaughan 7, Elsey 7.

Gillingham: Hillyard 6, Sharpe 6, Adams 6, Bruce 7, Sutton 7, **TYDEMAN 8**, White 6, Johnson 7, Casciaro 6, Grewcock 6, Weatherly 6 (sub. Price 6).
Referee: D. Civil (Birmingham)
Match Rating: ★★★

ORIENT (1) 1 (Houchen 34)
OXFORD (3) 5 (Lawrence 6, Foley 12, 24, Vinter 57, Smithers 87)
Att: 2,242
Orient: Day 5, Roffey 6, Peach 6, Foster 5, Cunningham 5, Donn 5, Osgood 6, **GODFREY 7**, Houchen 6, Sussex 6, Taylor 5 (sub. Blackhall 6).
Oxford: Butcher 7, Linney 6, Grant 7, Train 7, Fogg 6, Shotton 7, Lawrence 7, Foley 7, Vinter 7 (sub. Brock), Hebbard 6, **SMITHERS 8**.
Referee: N. Taylor (Leicester)
Match Rating: ★★★

PLYMOUTH (2) 2 (Cook, pen 13, Hodges 40)
HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1 (Wilson 66)
Att: 4,227
Plymouth: Crudgington 6, Nisbet 7, Uzzell 5, Harrison 6, Smith 7, Cooper 5, **HODGES 9**, Cook 6, Carter 5, McCartney 6, Rogers 6.
Huddersfield: Cox 6, **BROWN 9**, Burke 6, Stanton 7, Sutton 8, Valentine 6 (sub. Pugh), Lillis 7, Doyle 6, Russell 5, Wilson 5, Cowling 6.
Referee: D. Letts (Basingstoke)
Match Rating: ★★★

READING (2) 3 (Dixon 2, 25, Beavon 83)
EXETER (1) 1 (Pullar 37)
Att: 2,971
Reading: Judge 6, Williams 6, Richardson 6, Beavon 6, Barnes 5, Wood 6, **BASON 7**, Earles 5, Dixon 6, O'Sullivan 6, Donnellan 5 (sub. Sanchez 6).
Exeter: Bond 6, Rogers 6, Viney 6, Harle 5, Marker 5, McEwan 5, Neville 6, Rogers, P 6, Kellow 5, **DELVE 7**, Pullar 6.
Referee: E. J. Scales (Ware)
Match Rating: ★★★

WIGAN (2) 3 (Lowe 15, Steel 27, 46)
SHEFFIELD UNITED (0) 2 (Morris, pen 53, Trusson 79)
Att: 5,015
Wigan: Tunks 6, McMahon 7, Cribbley 7, **LANGLEY 8**, Walsh 6, Methven 7, Butler 7, Shaw 6, Steel 7, Lowe 7, Weston 7.
Sheff Utd: Conroy 6, Henderson 6, Charles 6, Ross 5, Houston 5, Kenworthy 6, **MORRIS 7**, Trusson 6, Edwards 6, Young 6, Brazil 6.
Referee: J. D. Hough (Macclesfield)
Match Rating: ★★★

Division Four

BLACKPOOL (1) 1 (Pashley 22)
HULL (1) 1 (Mutrie 33)
Att: 3,395
Blackpool: Hesford 7, Bardsley 8, Pritchett 7, Deary 8 (sub. Noble 6), **HETZKE 9**, Sarella 7, Hockaday 7, Jeffrey 6, Bamber 7, Pashley 7, Downes 6.
Hull: Davies 7, McNeil 7, Askew 7, Roberts, D 7, Skipper 7, Booth 7, Marwood 7, McClaren 6 (sub. Swan 6), Hawley 6, **MUTRIE 8**, Roberts, G 7.
Referee: C. N. Seel (Carlisle)
Match Rating: ★★★

BURY (2) 3 (Gore, pen 21, Parker 43, Bramhall 59)
ALDERSHOT (0) 1 (Sanford 89)
Att: 2,482
Bury: Brown 7, Gardiner 6, Halliday 7, **BRAMHALL 8**, Davies 7, Gore 6, Hilton, P 7, Jakub 6, Madden 6, Parker 6, Firth 7.
Aldershot: Johnson 6, Scott 5, **JOPLING 7**, Gillard 6, Wooller 6, Shrubbs 6, Briley 6, McDonald 6, Brodie 5, Banton 6, Sanford 5.
Referee: J. M. Key (Rotherham)
Match Rating: ★★★
Sending Off: Scott (Aldershot)

CHESTER (2) 2 (Stortor 12, Thomas 39)
HARLPOOL (1) 1 (Lane, og 22)
Att: 1,114
Chester: Salmon 7, Bradley 5, Lane 5, Stortor 7, Needham 6, Johnson 6, **SLOAN 8**, Allen 5 (sub. Cooke 6), Thomas 6, Ludlam 5, Wilson 6.
Hartlepool: Wright 6, Smith 5, Stimpson 6, Hogan 6, Barker 5, Linighan 7, Staff 7, Dobson 7, Linacre 7, **BROWN 8**, Bainbridge 6 (sub. Lawrence 5).
Referee: K. Barratt (Coventry)
Match Rating: ★★★

DARLINGTON (0) 0
WIMBLEDON (2) 2 (Leslie 1, 36)
Att: 1,117

Darlington: Cuff 6, Liddle 5, Wilson 5, Smith 6, Rhodes 7, Kamara 6, Gilbert 5, McLean 6, **HONOUR 8**, Walsh 6, Dunn 5.
Wimbledon: Beasant 7, Peters 5, Ferm 7, Galliers 6, Smith 7, Hatter 6, Evans 6, Ketteridge 6, **LESLIE 8**, Downes 6, Gage 7.
Referee: D. Allison (Lancaster)
Match Rating: ★★★

HEREFORD (0) 0
SCUNTHORPE (1) 2 (Cammack 31, Cartwright 48)
Att: 2,103
Hereford: Plumley 6, **PRICE 8**, Bartley 6, Hicks 6, Pejic 7, Bray 7, Harvey 6, Phillips 5, Showers 5, McNeil 5, White 5.
Scunthorpe: Neenan 7, Keeley 6, Pointon 6, Cartwright 7, **BAINES 8**, Hunter 7, O'Berg 6, Cammack 6, Cowling 6, Angus 7, Leman 7.
Referee: D. A. Hedges (Headington)
Match Rating: ★★★

MANSFIELD (1) 1 (Bell 40)
STOCKPORT (0) 0
Att: 1,661
Mansfield: Arnold 6, Bird 5, Kennedy 6, Bell 6, Ayre 7, Calderwood 6, **MATTHEWS 8**, Hutchinson 5, Dungworth 5, Caldwell 6 (sub. Woodhead), Nicholson 5.
Stockport: Lloyd 6, Rutter 6, Sherlock 7, **EMERSON 8**, Bowles 6, Thorpe 5, Smith 5, Phillips 6, Quinn 6, Park 6, Coyle 5.
Referee: M. Dimblebee (Stevenage)
Match Rating: ★★★

PORT VALE (0) 0
TRANMERE (1) 1 (Sproson, og 44)
Att: 3,452

Port Vale: Siddall 7, Tatt 6, Bromage 7, **HUNTER 8**, Sproson 7, Cegielski 7, Fox 7, Moss 6, Newton 6, Ridley 5, Armstrong 7 (sub. Shankland).
Tranmere: Endersby 8, Mungall 7, Burgess 7, Mooney 7, Hamilton 7, **WILLIAMS 9**, Ferguson 8, Aspinall 7, Kerr 7, Brown 7, Griffiths 7.
Referee: N. Midgley (Salford)
Match Rating: ★★★

ROCHDALE (0) 1 (Farrell 75)
BRISTOL CITY (0) 0
Att: 1,307
Rochdale: **PEARCE 8**, Keenan 6, Snookes 6, Farrell 7, McElhinney 7 (sub. Weir 6), Nicholson 6, Thompson 6, Greaves 6, Hilditch 6, Wellings 6, Hamilton 7.
Bristol City: Shaw 7, Llewellyn 6, Johnson 6, Nicholls 5, Phillipson-Masters 6, Riley 6, Newman 5, **THOMPSON 8**, Chandler 5, Cooper 6, Crawford 5.
Referee: A. Challinor (Maltby)
Match Rating: ★★

SWINDON (0) 1 (Rideout, pen 56)
PETERBOROUGH (0) 0
Att: 3,961
Swindon: Allan 7, Henry 6, **BADDELEY 8**, Emmanuel 7, Lewis 7, Graham 7, Pritchard 6, Batty 5, Rideout 7, Rowland 6, Barnard 6.
Peterborough: Seaman 7, Winters 6, Collins 5, Gynn 7, Firm 7, Slack 7, Clarke 6, Rodaway 7, Cooke 7, **BENJAMIN 8** (sub. Chard), Quow 6.
Referee: H. W. King (Merthyr Tydfil)
Match Rating: ★★★

SCOTTISH League Cup Final

CELTIC (2) 2 (Nicholas 22, MacLeod 31)
RANGERS (0) 1 (Bett 46)
Att: 3,372 (At Hampden Park)
Celtic: Bonner 7, McGin 7, Sinclair 6, Aitken 7, McAdam 6, MacLeod 7, **PROVAN 8**, McStay 7 (sub. Reid 6), McGarvey 6, Burns 7, Nicholas 7.
Rangers: Stewart 6, MacKinnon 7, Redford 6, McClelland 7, Paterson 6, **BETT 8**, Cooper 6, Prytz 6 (sub. Dawson), Johnstone 6, Russell 6 (sub. MacDonald), Smith 6.
Referee: K. Hope (Glasgow)
Match Rating: ★★★

Scottish Premier

KILMARNOCK (1) 2 (Clarke 19, 67)
ST MIRREN (0) 2 (McAvenie 55, Sumner 72)
Att: 2,200
Kilmarnock: McCulloch 7, Robertson 7, Cockburn 6, **CLARKE 8**, McDicken 7, Clark, J 6, McLean 7, MacLeod 6, Gallagher 7, Bourke 6, McGivern 7.
St. Mirren: Thomson 6, Wilson 7, Walker 6

(sub. Sumner 6), Clarke 6, Fulton 7, Copland 6, McAvenie 7, **FITZPATRICK 8**, Richardson 7, Stark 6, Scanlon 6 (sub. McDougall).
Referee: D. Gallaway (Pitlessie)
Match Rating: ★★★

MORTON (0) 0
HIBERNIAN (0) 0
Att: 1,500
Morton: Baines 7, Houston 6, Holmes 7, Rooney 6, McLaughlin 6, **DUFFY 8**, McNab 7, Docherty 6, Hutchison 7, Cochrane 6, Ritchie 6.
Hibs: **ROUGH 8**, Sneddon 6, Turnbull 6, Jamieson 6, Rae 7, Smith 7, Callaghan 7, Conroy 7, Duncan 7, Thomson 6, Murray 7.
Referee: H. Williamson (Renfrew)
Match Rating: ★★★

MOTHERWELL (0) 0
ABERDEEN (0) 2 (Strachan, pen 50, Weir 65)
Att: 4,929
Motherwell: Sproat 6, MacLeod 7, Forsyth 6, Forbes 6, Rafferty 6, Edvaldsson 7, **MAUCHLEN 8**, O'Hara 6, Gahagan 6, Flavel 6, McLellan 6.
Aberdeen: Leighton 7, Kennedy 6, Rougie 6, **COOPER 8**, McLeish 7, Miller 7, Strachan 7, Simpson 7, Bell 6, Black 6 (sub. Hewitt), Weir 7.
Referee: T. Muirhead (Stenhousemuir)
Match Rating: ★★★

First Division

ALLOA (2) 4 (Thomson 34, Lloyd 43, 60, Campbell 52)
QUEEN'S PARK (0) 1 (McFarland 65)
Att: 790

CLYDEBANK (0) 0
AYR (0) 1 (Larnach 54)
Att: 463

DUMBARTON (0) 1 (Craig 74)
CLYDE (2) 3 (Masterton 27, 36, Reilly 70)
Att: 500
DUNFERMLINE (1) 1 (Forrest 26)
AIRDRIE (0) 0
Att: 1,039
FALKIRK (0) 0
ST JOHNSTONE (0) 1 (Brannigan 81)
Att: 1,500
HEARTS (1) 2 (Mackay 13, Johnston, pen 70)
RAITH (0) 0
Att: 4,190
PARTICK THISTLE (0) 1 (Park 49)
HAMILTON (1) 1 (Phillips 5)
Att: 1,892

Second Division

ALBION (1) 3 (Gibson 14, pen 60, Livingstone 87)
EAST STIRLING (1) 1 (Campbell, pen 22)
Att: 400

BERWICK (0) 0
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH (2) 4 (Gordon 2, Alexander 31, Robertson 48, Busby 52)
Att: 661
BRECHIN (1) 5 (Leslie 35, 75, Paterson 52, 67, 78)
STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 2 (Thompson 73, 84)
Att: 400
EAST FIFE (4) 5 (Burt 8, 13, 38, Scott 32, Thomson, pen 77)
MEADOWBANK (0) 0
Att: 492
FORFAR (0) 0
COWDENBEATH (0) 0
Att: 770
STIRLING ALBION (1) 1 (Moffat 34)
ARBROATH (0) 0
Att: 650

STRANRAER (3) 3 (McBride 21, Sweeney 31, Hay, pen 32)
MONTROSE (1) 3 (Copeland 15, 89, Turnbull 55)
Att: 200

MATCHFACTS

LEADING SCORERS

(League, Cups, Total)

Division One

	10	4	14
Latchford (Swansea)	10	4	14
Rush (Liverpool)	11	2	13
Stein (Luton)	12	1	13
Blissett (Watford)	11	1	12
Wallace (Nott'm Forest)	8	4	12

Division Two

	14	1	15
Davies (Fulham)	14	1	15
Glavin (Barnsley)	9	4	13
Lineker (Leicester)	13	0	13
Bannister (Sheff. Wed.)	12	1	13
Drinkell (Grimsby)	8	5	13

Division Three

	13	4	17
Elliott (Preston)	13	4	17
Dixon (Reading)	17	0	17
Campbell (Bradford)	12	4	16
Biley (Portsmouth)	13	3	16
Joseph (Brentford)	13	2	15

Division Four

	9	5	14
Bamber (Blackpool)	9	5	14
Cooper (Torquay)	10	3	13
Massey (Northampton)	10	3	13
Rideout (Swindon)	9	3	12
Leslie (Wimbledon)	10	2	12

SCOTTISH Premier Division

	14	13	27
Nicholas (Celtic)	9	5	14
Dodds (Dundee Utd)	6	7	13
Strachan (Aberdeen)	4	8	12

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	B	L	F	A	W	B	L	F	A	Ps
Liverpool	17	6	2	0	24	7	4	2	3	14	7	34
Man Utd	17	6	2	0	15	4	3	2	4	9	10	31
Aston Villa	17	8	0	1	22	6	2	1	5	5	12	31
Watford	17	6	2	1	22	5	3	1	4	12	13	30
Nottm Forest	17	6	1	1	16	5	3	1	5	14	19	29
West Ham	17	6	1	1	20	6	3	0	6	11	18	28
Ipswich	18	4	3	1	15	9	3	5	2	16	11	27
West Brom	17	6	1	1	18	7	2	2	5	9	17	27
Man City	17	6	2	1	13	7	2	1	5	8	15	27
Coventry	18	7	2	1	16	7	0	2	6	4	17	25
Tottenham	17	5	2	2	24	10	2	1	5	14	24	24
Notts County	17	5	2	2	13	13	2	1	5	10	15	24
Stoke	17	4	2	2	19	5	2	1	6	11	14	21
Swansea	17	6	0	3	17	11	0	3	5	8	17	21
Everton	17	4	4	1	16	11	1	1	6	9	15	20
Arsenal	17	2	3	1	10	11	1	2	4	9	11	20
Southampton	17	5	1	3	11	9	0	3	5	7	22	19
Brighton	17	5	2	1	11	7	0	1	8	4	29	18
Luton	17	2	4	2	17	14	1	4	4	16	23	17
Norwich	17	4	2	3	15	11	0	3	5	5	18	17
Birmingham	17	3	2	2	9	10	0	5	4	2	15	17
Sunderland	17	2	4	3	12	11	1	1	6	9	23	14

MATCH WINNERS

NICHOLAS Moorhouse of Thetford, Norfolk, the winner of our November 20 'Spot the Difference' competition, wins a Sondico goalkeeping kit, including shirt, shorts, gloves, hat, wallet and football.

The following ten runners-up each receive a pair of goalkeeping gloves: Phillip Reade of Wolverhampton; Stuart Aitchison of South Norwood, London; Stephen Bain of Duns, Berwickshire; Clive Somerville of Colchester; Andrew Walton of Leeds; Simon McCallum of Manfield, Darlington; Simon Seary of Wimborne, Dorset; David Lynch of Stockport; Steven Reid of Pencoed, Mid Glamorgan; Stephen Molisher of Holbeach, Lincs.

THE five winners in our November 20 'Programme Parade' competition each receive a set of five European competition programmes featuring First Division clubs.

They are: Ralph McDowell of Cookstown, County Tyrone; Jeff Nice of Rainham, Essex; Andrew Phillips of Barnehurst, Kent; Nicholas Taylor of Idle, Bradford; George Parcel of London.

DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Ps
Q.P.R.	18	6	2	1	17	8	5	2	2	10	5	37
Fulham	17	5	2	1	16	9	5	1	3	21	14	33
Wolves	17	7	0	2	22	9	3	3	9	9	23	
Sheff. Wed.	17	5	3	1	17	9	4	1	3	14	10	31
Grimsby	17	5	2	2	21	9	3	1	4	11	16	27
Shrewsbury	17	4	2	2	9	7	4	1	4	14	16	27
Oldham	17	3	4	1	15	11	3	4	2	13	11	26
Leeds	17	4	3	2	12	8	2	4	2	9	9	25
Barnsley	17	3	4	1	14	10	3	3	9	10	25	
Leicester	17	3	1	1	5	13	9	4	1	3	16	11
Newcastle	17	4	2	2	21	8	2	2	5	14	18	22
Blackburn	17	4	3	2	17	11	2	1	5	11	19	22
Rotherham	17	3	3	2	9	11	2	4	3	13	15	22
Chelsea	17	4	4	1	14	7	1	2	5	6	12	21
Carlisle	17	5	1	1	3	22	15	1	2	5	11	20
C. Palace	17	4	1	1	14	8	1	3	5	6	14	21
Charlton	17	4	1	1	14	14	2	2	4	4	10	19
Middlesb.	17	3	2	1	4	10	19	1	5	3	9	17
Burnley	17	3	2	1	3	12	10	1	1	7	11	21
Cambridge	18	3	4	2	13	13	0	1	8	6	17	14
Derby	17	2	4	3	9	13	0	4	4	7	14	14
Bolton	17	3	1	4	12	14	0	4	5	2	11	14

DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Ps
Lincoln	17	9	0	2	0	26	5	4	0	9	11	39
Bristol R.	19	8	1	2	18	6	5	2	3	14	13	34
Newport	18	7	2	0	19	7	3	2	3	12	13	34
Huddersfield	18	7	3	0	26	5	2	2	4	7	11	32
Cardiff	17	7	0	1	14	5	3	2	4	14	19	32
Portsmouth	18	7	0	2	20	8	2	3	4	10	15	31
Brentford	18	7	1	1	25	10	1	4	4	15	20	29
Southend	18	6	1	1	19	8	3	1	6	12	17	29
Bradford C.	18	6	3	2	22	12	2	2	5	9	15	29
Plymouth	18	7	0	2	23	8	1	4	4	13	22	28
Oxford	17	3	5	1	15	8	4	1	4	15	13	27
Gillingham	18	5	1	3	13	8	3	1	5	9	10	26
Wigan	18	6	0	2	20	11	2	2	3	14	19	25
Bournemouth	19	3	3	1	31	9	2	2	5	7	14	23
Exeter	18	5	2	2	20	15	1	3	5	10	23	23
Wrexham	18	5	2	2	21	10	1	3	5	6	18	23
Sheffield U.	18	4	2	3	12	9	1	3	5	7	15	20
Reading	18	5	2	2	19	12	0	2	7	12	26	19
Chesterfield	17	2	2	1	25	10	2	3	4	8	15	32
Swindon	18	5	0	1	21	10	4	2	4	15	11	31
Wimbledon	18	5	5	0	21	10	4	2	4	16	11	24
Blackpool	18	5	5	0	21	10	6	1	6	8	15	24
Mansfield	18	3	2	2	13	9	4	1	4	12	17	24
Walsall	18	5	2	2	13	11	0	6	4	8	15	23
Hereford	18	4	2	2	13	12	3	2	4	12	13	18
Rochdale	18	4	4	1	14	8	0	2	2	7	20	18
Stockport	18	3	4	2	12	12	0	3	5	10	19	18
Tranmere	18	4	2	2	12	13	1	0	8	5	20	17
Crewe	18	4	2	3	15	6	6	2	0	6	8	14
Bristol City	18	2	4	3	10	12	0	4	5	8	23	14

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Ps

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ONE-TIME Wembley wonder boy Mark Falco is desperate for a return to the soccer big time.

And the Spurs striker is looking to great London rivals Chelsea to help boost his bid for regular top flight action at White Hart Lane.

Currently in the middle of a month's loan period at Stamford Bridge, Mark says: "I hope the move will provide me with a springboard to success.

"I will give 100 per cent while I am at Chelsea but, after the loan period, I will go back to Spurs to fight for a first team place."

Twenty-two-year-old Mark, who has spent most of this season in the reserves at Spurs, earned rave notices with a dazzling performance in the Charity Shield at Wembley last year.

His two goals against Aston Villa had the fans and the press in raptures and he was immediately labelled a star of the future.

Mark proved that performance was no fluke when he notched up two more goals against Ajax in the European Cup Winners Cup.

But the bubble soon burst and Mark found himself struggling to command a place in the first team.

For the majority of this season the unhappy striker has been playing in the reserves, but in October he declared he was not going to "throw in the towel" and leave White Hart Lane.

He said at the time: "All I ever wanted to do was play first team football for Tottenham. I've got two years to run on my contract and during that time I'm determined to win back my place."

But with strikers Garth Crooks and Steve Archibald almost automatic choices, he had his work cut out.

And so, when the chance of an "on loan" move to Chelsea came up, he decided to take it. "The move came right out of the blue," says Mark.

"Manager Keith Burkinshaw asked me if I fancied going on loan and, although he emphasised that I didn't have to go, he thought it would be better experience for me than playing in the reserves."

Mark hopes that playing in the Second Division for Chelsea will help him regain his old sharpness.

He says: "Reserve team games are much slower and when I played the odd game in the first team I found it difficult to get into the run of things.

"I have been scoring in the reserves, but when you don't get a regular first team game it's hard to get established and you lose touch.

"Although I didn't play badly in the few League appearances I made, I didn't score. If I had, things may have been different," says Mark, who played his first game for Chelsea two weeks ago.

The 1-0 defeat at Rotherham was not a match he will wish to remember. "The game was not too good," he says. "They play a different style in the Second Division — more kick-and-run stuff."

A debut for a new club is always a difficult experience, but for Mark it was even more so. "I went over to Chelsea on the Thursday before the game and only had chance to play with my new team-mates for about ten minutes on the Friday.

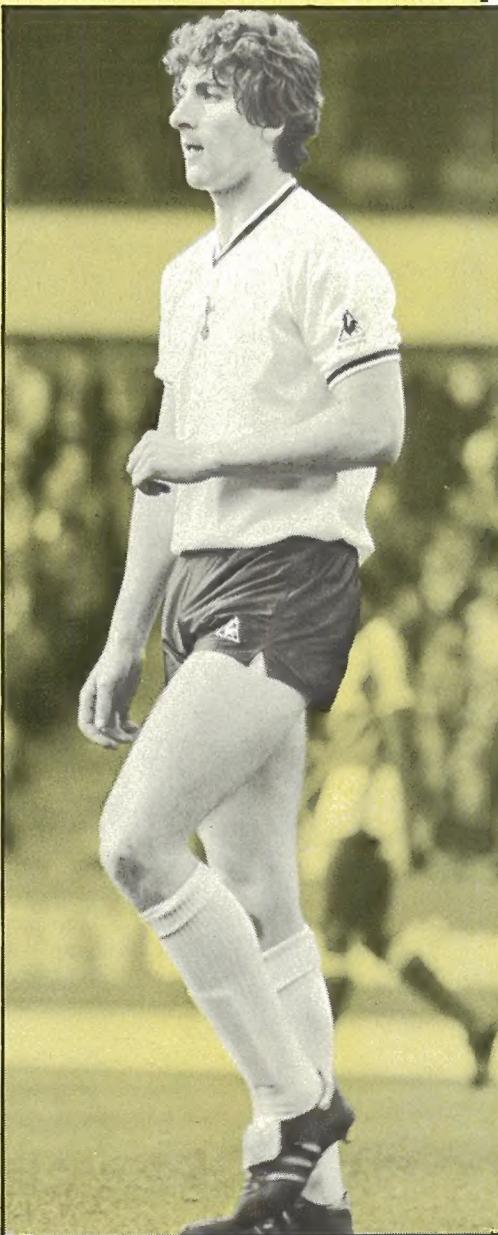
"It certainly seemed strange putting on the blue shirt of Chelsea and playing alongside new players, but it is something I will have to get used to."

Having sampled a taste of the big time at Spurs, Mark is hungry for a second helping and he has no doubts about his future. "I have done it once and I am confident I can do it again," he says.

Right: Mark Falco — hoping rivals Chelsea can boost his first team chances at White Hart Lane.

OUT OF THE BLUE

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BACK ROW (left to right): Phil Crosby, Dean Crombie, Gary Beacock, Kevin Moore, David Moore.

MIDDLE ROW: Tony Ford, John Stone, Nigel Batch, Peter Grotter, Neil Cooper, Kevin Kilmore.

FRONT ROW: John Steeple, Andy O'Dell, Joe Waters, Kevin Drinkel; Trevor Whymark, Bob Cumming.
INSET: Mick Speight (top) and Phil Bonneyman.

